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M. F. SOAN, Business Manager.

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The money must always accompany the Order, and in no instance can these terms be deviated from.

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The Pittsburgh Commercial.

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VOL. XI. PITTSBURGH, SATURDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 27, 1873. NO. 90.

FIRST EDITION

A GENERAL BRAKING UP.

STRIKE OF LOCOMOTIVE ENGINEERS.

Travel Seriously Impeded in Several States.

Trains Motionless Since Noon of Yesterday.

Reduction of Wages by the Pennsylvania Company Resisted.

Acts of Violence by the Strikers

No Hope of Improvement Before Monday.

Special Dispatches from Principal Railroad Centers.

Columbus.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

COLUMBUS, December 26, 1873.

All engineers on all lines of the Pittsburgh, Cincinnati and St. Louis Railroad struck today at noon, to resist a reduction of ten per cent. on their wages, and no trains are moving on any division. Several engineers have threatened to shoot any one attempting to run an engine. The railroad authorities have called on the municipal authorities to assist in preventing mob law where necessary.

To the Associated Press.

COLUMBUS, December 26.—The locomotive engineers and firemen on the leased lines of the Pan Handle road west of Pittsburgh, struck to-day at noon in resistance to a reduction of ten per cent. on their wages. The strike resulted in a general stoppage of trains, none having left this point since noon. A press reporter reviewed a delegation of engineers tonight and was assured that all they want is a restoration of wages paid previous to December 1st. They also declare that they will not interfere with any one who wishes to run their engines. A train was run in from Dennison to-night by John Simmons, a master of transportation. Just as the engine pulled into the depot here, Simmons was struck on the head with a stone thrown by some unknown party, but was not much injured. The engineers say they are positive that this was not done by any of their men. The engineers further say that this strike is made only after two respectful protests against the reduction had been sent to headquarters without accomplishing the object sought. The yard here is full of freight and passenger trains, and much inconvenience to the traveling public must result unless the trouble is speedily adjusted. D. W. Caldwell, Superintendent of the lines west of this point, states that on December 1st a reduction of ten per cent. was made on the salaries of all officers and attaches of these lines, and that the engineers and firemen are the only parties who have not acceded to this arrangement. The reduction was made by reason of the financial condition of the country, and a desire to keep all their money employed and pay them regularly.

Cincinnati.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

CINCINNATI, December 26, 1873.

A strike of the engineers and firemen on the Pennsylvania Company's leased lines began on the Little Miami road, extending from Cincinnati to Columbus, at noon to-day. The Superintendent had no notice of an intended strike until the engineers and firemen had left their engines, although the fact of their dissatisfaction in regard to the reduction of wages has been known since December 1st. A rumor only reached the ears of Superintendent Ellison at ten o'clock that a strike would begin to-day. The Loveland accommodation, which leaves the city at five minutes after twelve, was backed in as usual a few minutes before twelve, but the moment twelve o'clock came, the engineer and firemen left the engine where it stood, and the trains were obliged to postpone their trip. This was the first intimation of the strike. Superintendent Ellison, himself an engineer, got an engine ready for the next train, at half past one, and ran it out to Pendleton, three miles, where he found a substitute to take it on. The next train, an accommodation, did not go out, but the master mechanic, John H. Setchell, took the engine. For the third train and for the fifth, the train dispatcher acted as engineer. The Superintendent also managed to get an engineer for the night through train, leaving at 9:45. Arrangements are made by which the trains will run to-morrow, with the exception of three accommodation trains. All the freight trains are stopped and there is no prospect of their running before Monday, if they have the good luck to get engineers by that time. The engineers on the Little Miami Road are, in the main, men of good standing, many of them having been on the road for a long time. They bow to the decree of the Association of Engineers, which has ordered this step, but personally most of them regret its apparent necessity. They do not propose violence. They rest in the belief that the company cannot get experienced men to fill their places, and that the delays and accidents resulting from employing incapable engineers will so reduce public confidence in the roads that travel will desert them. The engineers on the road to-night are, in the main, among the engineers, and that the strike is without the authority of the Brotherhood; also that only twenty-five or thirty engineers went out and that these have asked to be reinstated. With the exception of freights abandoned, trains are running as usual. No trouble is reported on other roads centering here.

Indianapolis.

INDIANAPOLIS, IND., December 26.—The engineers on the Pittsburgh, Cincinnati and St. Louis; Indianapolis and Vincennes; and Jeffersonville, Madison and Indianapolis railroads struck at 12 o'clock. All trains leaving their starting point before 12 o'clock will run through. On the Indianapolis and Vincennes Road the regular passenger train went out on card time, and the night passenger trains on both the Pittsburgh, Cincinnati and St. Louis and Jeffersonville, Madison and Indianapolis will go out as usual in charge of engineers not members of the Brotherhood. There has been no disturbance as yet, and it is not anticipated that the strike will extend to other roads. No trains have arrived on the Pittsburgh, Cincinnati and St. Louis Railroad since twelve o'clock. The regular train leaving Louisville at two P. M. on the Jeffersonville, Madison and Indianapolis road, came in a few minutes late.

Logansport, Ind.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

LOGANSPORT, IND., December 26, 1873.

All the engineers on the Pittsburgh, Cincinnati and St. Louis Railroad struck at noon against a reduction of ten per cent. in wages, and no trains are running. An engineer attempted to take a train on from here this afternoon, and was pulled from the engine and threatened with violence at the hands of the strikers if an attempt was made to run a train.

Chicago.

CHICAGO, December 26.—The engineers and firemen on the Illinois Central, the Great Eastern, the Northwestern, and the Pittsburgh and Fort Wayne Roads, struck at noon to-day, and no trains have gone out over these lines to-night. The strike is on account of the recent reduction in wages. It is thought that a sufficient number of engineers will be secured without much trouble to put the usual trains on all roads, perhaps, to-morrow.

CHICAGO, December 26.—The train dispatches at the offices of the Illinois Central, Northwestern and Pittsburgh and Fort Wayne Railroads in this city, deny the report that there is any strike of engineers and firemen on these roads, and assert that there is no cause for any strike, as their wages have not been reduced. The engineers of the Great Eastern struck, as before stated.

Louisville.

LOUISVILLE, December 26.—The striking engineers and brakemen did not notify the officials of the Jeffersonville, Madison and Indianapolis Railroad of their intended action till the trains were ready to start this afternoon. After much trouble, at 3 P. M. a train was got out under charge of the Master Mechanic of the road. The strike will cause the suspension of all freight and night passenger trains. Arrangements have been made to run out daily two passenger trains in charge of engineers not belonging to the Union. Horace Scott, General Superintendent, thinks that by Monday he will be able to resume a portion of the freight trains. Several striking men told the *Courier-Journal* to-day that members of the Union on the Jefferson, Madison & Indianapolis Railroad sent a deputation to Pittsburgh several days since, which met other deputations, who, together, waited on Mr. McCullough, General Superintendent of the Pennsylvania Company, and remonstrated against a reduction. He referred them back to the officials of this division. It is understood that members of the Union on the Jefferson Road awaited a telegram from headquarters at Pittsburgh before commencing the strike. The telegram was received this morning, and the strike commenced at noon. All trains starting out before noon were brought safely to their destination. No violence is reported.

FORT WAYNE.

Observance of Christmas—Suspension of Business—Religious Services Etc.—Fatal Railroad Accident—Man Hit with a Stone—Shooting Affray.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

FORT WAYNE, IND., December 25, 1873.

Christmas was observed here to-day by religious exercises, and a general suspension of business. It has been the finest Christmas day known for a great many years, being as warm as summer.

George Griss was knocked off the track by a train, in the eastern part of the city, breaking his arm and leg, and cutting his head, so that his recovery is very doubtful. He was about thirty years of age, and cannot tell where he is from.

While some boys were snow-balling yesterday, a man named Zimmerman was so badly cut in the forehead with a stone, that the skull was fractured. His recovery is doubtful.

A man named Thompson severely beat one Ed. Downey last evening, whereupon Downey's brother shot Thompson in the right arm, producing an ugly wound.

NEW YORK.

NEW YORK, December 25, 1873.

CHRISTMAS DINNERS TO THE NEWSBOYS AND OTHER POOR CHILDREN.

Christmas was observed in a quiet manner. The usual services were held in the churches, and the customary series of Christmas dinners given to the poor children of the city. The dinner given to some three hundred newsboys, by William M. Fliess, was one of the features of the day. A number of prominent gentlemen were present and made brief remarks, which the boys applauded in their usual hearty style.

SHERIFF'S CLERK AND DEPUTIES CHARGED WITH ROBBERY.

The *Times* says that Judson Jarvis, a clerk at the Sheriff's office, and two deputy sheriffs, have been held for trial in a case of alleged robbery of B. S. Croft a wealthy Virginian, of three five thousand dollar gold certificates, which he claims were taken from him while drinking wine with the above-named officers. One of the missing certificates was stopped at the Subtreasury yesterday with the forged indorsement of Croft, and has been traced to one Thomas Smith, a London keeper, who gave such an unsatisfactory account of how it came into his hands that he was arrested and held to bail in $6,000. Smith is understood to have made a clean breast of the affair, and interesting developments are anticipated.

RUMORS OF ANOTHER SPANISH TROUBLE.

The *Herald's* Key West special says that the United States steamer Pinta was suddenly ordered to sea last night, under sealed orders. Her destination is known to be one of the Cuban ports. It is rumored that some new complication has arisen.

HOW GENET ESCAPED.

The *Times* makes the following statement regarding the escape of Genet. After escaping from Deputy Sheriff Shields, Genet, in accordance with a preconceived plan, hastened to a close carriage in waiting near by and was driven to the house of a friend in the lower part of the city, where he remained concealed until Tuesday afternoon. Then, skillfully disguised, he was taken in another close carriage to the foot of Canal street and hurried on board the steamship Ontario, bound to St. Thomas, Jamico and Aspinwall. A passage had been previously engaged for him under an assumed name, and he was received by the officers without question. The Ontario sailed at a late hour on Tuesday and remained in the lower bay until yesterday morning, when she proceeded on her way.

ATTACHMENT FOR GENET'S PROPERTY.

In the Common Pleas chamber, yesterday, an attachment was issued against the property of Henry W. Genet. The order was issued at the instance of Wm. Caswell, who holds a small claim against the escaped criminal, the grounds being that Genet was an absconding debtor.

ONE MISSING MERCHANT HEARD FROM.

It has been ascertained that Edson Bradley, the missing Broadway merchant, has fled to Canada with seventy thousand dollars in gold to escape being prosecuted by his creditors on a charge of fraudulent bankruptcy.

HIS SON, MAJOR BRADLEY,

was last night committed to Ludlow street jail on the charge of concealing property from his creditors—the complaint is made by his brother-in-law, Mr. Hoffman. All the parties were members of the firm of Edson Bradley & Co., whose failure was recently announced.

PROVISION FOR VIRGINIUS PRISONERS.

Cubans here are making preparations to provide for the wants of the survivors of the Virginius after they have landed in this city.

ERIE ROAD BLOCKADED.

The Orange Hotel, at Turner's station, on the Erie Railway, was burned to-night. The building was four hundred feet long and three stories high, and belonged to the Erie Company. The loss is not ascertained. The road is temporarily blockaded.

GENET SAID TO BE IN MONTREAL.

A dispatch from Montreal reports Harry Genet there to-day.

Resumption of Philadelphia Cotton and Woolen Factories—Carpet Factories Closed.

PHILADELPHIA, December 26.—Most of the cotton and woolen factories are in full operation at reduced wages. The carpet manufactories, with very few exceptions, are all closed, owing principally to a difference between the weavers and manufacturers, caused by a reduction in weaving of two cents per yard. The manufacturers, as a general thing, say that prices of carpet have been reduced so much and sales are so slow they are not very anxious to resume operations, even though the weavers should agree to work at the proposed reduction.

New Patent.

The Great White River Flour is now being made under a new patent and is said to be giving general satisfaction. It is now the leading brand in this market.

SECOND EDITION.

WASHINGTON.

Investigation of Judge Durell.

Special Agents of Postoffice Department.

Their Examination and Its Nature.

Federal Appointments in Territories.

Cabinet Session of Yesterday.

President to Receive on New Year's.

Reduction of War Department Estimates.

The First National Bank Story.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 26, 1873.

The Durell Investigation.

Messrs. Wilson and Eldridge, special committee of the Judiciary Committee, will leave here to-morrow for New Orleans to carry out the orders of the House to investigate the charges against Judge Durell.

Examination of Postal Agents.

It is understood at the Postoffice Department that when the Postmaster General ordered an examination of all special agents now employed, it was not intended that any whose efficiency has been proved by actual service should be removed. On the contrary, efficiency will count largely in making up the details of the examination, and no official need fear that any individual will be placed over him or get a position now held, simply because he may be fresh from school and may have a more accurate knowledge of geography or grammar. Practical knowledge and past efficiency will rank high in the scale.

Territorial Offices.

The territorial delegates are considerably exercised over Federal appointments in their constituences. Last winter they endeavored to have them made from residents of the Territories. Since then several non-resident appointments have been made, and it is proposed to renew their efforts on the line of last winter.

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 26, 1873.

INFORMAL SESSION OF THE CABINET.

There was no business before the Cabinet to-day and the session was merely informal. The usual New Years' reception will be held by the President, on the first of January.

REDUCTION OF ESTIMATES.

As there is no pressing necessity for the heavy appropriations for the improvement of harbors and rivers and fortifications, the Engineers Bureau of the War Department estimates for such improvements, amounting to twenty millions, will probably be reduced to three millions.

FIRST NATIONAL BANK.

The statement that the First National bank of Washington will soon pay another dividend is without authority from the receiver.

BLAIRSVILLE, PA.

Railroad Accident—Death of a Prominent Merchant—Jumping from a Train—Art Entertainment.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

BLAIRSVILLE, PA., December 26, 1873.

One section of a freight train West, ran into another section on the Salsburg bridge of the West Penn Railroad, Wednesday morning, damaging the engines and cars. Fortunately no one was hurt.

William P. Stratton, a prominent merchant of this place, died yesterday morning. He will be buried on Saturday by the Masons and Odd Fellows.

Samuel J. Wakefield either fell or jumped off the eastward train West last evening, a short distance east of Blairsville intersection. He is supposed to have been under the influence of liquor. He was seriously cut on the head. Dr. M. L. Miller dressed his wounds.

R. A. Burke gave another art entertainment to a large audience last night, which is highly spoken of.

ZANESVILLE, OHIO.

Success of the Exposition—Death of an Old Resident.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

ZANESVILLE, O., December 25, 1873.

A large crowd has visited the Exposition today. Its success, financially, is secured.

There has been an unusual amount of drunkenness and fighting to-day.

Daniel Hart, a resident of this vicinity for fifty years, died very suddenly on his farm near this city last night.

CASUALTIES.

Death at Bellair Nail Works.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

BELLAIR, O., December 25, 1873.

John Rungan, an engineer in the blast-furnace of the Bellair nail works, got caught in the engine this morning at four o'clock, and instantly killed. It is not known how it happened, as he was alone at the time.

Boy Accidentally Killed.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

MT. VERNON, OHIO, December 26, 1873.

William Fecters, aged twelve years, was instantly killed this evening on Front street, by being thrown from a wagon. The accident was caused by the horses taking fright at a piece of furniture falling from the wagon.

CRIMES.

Burglary at Springfield, Ohio.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

SPRINGFIELD, O., December 26, 1873.

Burglars entered Kenrane Brother's dry goods store about one o'clock this morning and robbed it of over $2,000 worth of fine satins, silks and trimmings.

Chicago Workingmen—Meeting of Committees—Jealousies and Growls Over the Funds.

CHICAGO, December 26.—This evening a meeting was held at the City Hall, at which were present Mayor Colvin, the Finance Committee of Common Council, the special Committee on Relief appointed by Council on Monday evening, a special committee of workingmen, and the Executive Committee of the Chicago Relief and Aid Society. The object of the meeting was to consider the demand made by the workingmen, through their leader, that the Relief Society should turn apart, or place in the hands of the Workingmen's Relief Committee, a portion of the funds in their possession for distribution to their suffering fellow-laborers. In connection with this demand, grave charges had been made by some of the leaders of the workingmen, to the effect that the funds of the Relief Society had been misapplied, and that they would be unable, if called upon, to produce the six hundred thousand dollars which their accounts show should be on hand. The Executive Committee of the Relief Society, while declining absolutely to place any part of the fund in their hands into those of other parties for distribution, showed to them that the charges of misapplication of funds was unfounded, and offered to produce the entire six hundred thousand dollars in cash on half an hour's notice and let it be counted, as the workingmen had demanded. The committee also showed that they were relieving all cases of destitution presented to them, and that the society was doing most efficient work in providing for the worthy poor. The meeting, though long and productive of much earnest talk, was unmarked by any excitement, and the majority of all present signified entire satisfaction with the showing made by the Relief and Aid Society, and confidence in their disposition and ability to properly distribute the funds in their hands. The city attorney has brought suit against the bondsmen of David A. Gage, defaulting city treasurer, and the States attorney will bring Gage before the Grand Jury for indictment on criminal action.

Munificent Endowment of a Hospital at Louisville.

LOUISVILLE, December 26.—Hon. Shakespeare Caldwell, formerly member of Congress from this city, but now of New York, turned over to the poor of Louisville on Christmas day, a handsome building for hospital purposes, which he has had erected at the cost of $80,000. The edifice is to be called the Hospital of St. Mary and St. Elizabeth, and is to be under charge of the Sisters of Charity of the Nazareth community, but to be open for the reception of patients of every denomination. The gift is made in memory of Mr. Caldwell's wife, the only daughter of Colonel James D. Breckenridge, a distinguished lawyer of this city. The building is finished with all modern conveniences and will accommodate several hundred patients.

The Latest Novelty.

The Ginger Fruit Cake, from the mammoth establishment of Messrs. S. S. Marvin & Co., 91 and 93 Liberty street, is the latest novelty in the cake line. They are exceedingly toothsome and appetizing. Ask your grocer for them.

BLOODY SHOOTING MATCH.

Christmas Sports in Ohio.

Young Man Shot by His Own Brother.

Who is at Once Hung by Spectators.

Their Parents Residents of Pennsylvania.

Particulars of the Thrilling Tragedy

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

DONSON, O., December 25, 1873.

At a shooting match to-day, at Riga, a village near here, two brothers, named respectively John and Henry Stowe, quarrelled about loading the rifle used. John called Henry a liar, when Henry drew a revolver and shot John, killing him instantly. The spectators, being much excited, caught and hung Henry to a limb of a tree, and when taken down life was extinct. Too much whiskey caused it all.

LATER.—The particulars of the Stowe fratricide and the subsequent hanging of Henry Stowe are as follows:

The Village of Riga

consists of a portable sawmill and three houses occupied by the employees of the mill. It is situated on the farm of John Riga, from whom it received its name. It is about thirteen miles northwest of this place.

The Shooting Match

was a friendly affair and gotten up by John and Henry Stowe, who invited their neighbors to participate. After drinking freely of whisky, the company, consisting of the two Stowes, George and Joseph Geise, Robert Wolfe, and three brothers named Reynolds, repaired to a clearing near the mill to participate in the match. John Stowe insisted on loading the rifle for each competitor, and Henry contended that each man should charge the gun for himself. Henry, however, acceded to the demand of John until it came his turn to shoot, when he demanded that the rifle be given to him to load.

Killed by His Brother.

High words followed, in the course of which Henry charged John with dishonesty in not putting any ball in the gun when last loading it for Wolfe. John called Henry a liar, upon which Henry shot John dead with a revolver.

The Retribution.

Henry was immediately seized by Wolfe and the three Reynolds brothers, dragged to the mill, from which a rope was procured, and hung to a limb. The company then repaired to the office, as they called one of the three hotels in the town, and upon returning found the victim dead. Seeming to realize for the first time what had transpired, those who participated fled, and, up to the present, have not been captured.

The Parents of the Brothers Stowe,

who live in Pennsylvania, were notified at once of the terrible affair, and arrived this afternoon and took charge of the remains of their sons, who, it seems, were their only children. Officers are in pursuit of the parties concerned in the hanging.

EUROPE.

BY THE ATLANTIC CABLE.

England.

EIGHTEEN MEN DROWNED.

LONDON, December 26.—At five o'clock this morning, the steamer Gipsey Queen belonging to the River Tyne Improvement Commissioners, struck the wreck of a sunken lighter and went to the bottom in five minutes. There were between fifty and sixty workmen on board the boat at the time of the disaster, twenty of them were rescued. The remainder, thirty or forty men, were drowned.

LONDON, December 26, 6 A. M.—The latest reports reduce the number of lives lost by the steamboat disaster on the Tyne to eighteen.

REINFORCEMENT FOR THE ASHANTEE EXPEDITION.

LONDON, December 26.—Dispatches from Gold Coast announce the arrival of Highland troops at Cape Coast Castle.

Spain.

SICKLES' RESIGNATION ACCEPTED.

Herald's Special.]

MADRID, December 26.—The resignation of General Sickles, United States Minister, has been officially accepted by Castelar.

CARTAGENA SIEGE PROGRESSING—EXPLOSION OF A BATTERY.

LONDON, December 26.—Special dispatches from Cartagena announce that Fort San Julian, one of the strongest defenses of the city, has been breached. An accidental explosion in the Fenal Battery yesterday killed twenty officers and men of the besieging force.

GEN. MARIONES LANDS AT SAN ANTONIO.

MADRID, December 26.—Gen. Mariones, who embarked at San Sebastian with fourteen thousand men, landed to-day at San Antonio.

France.

DEATH OF VICTOR HUGO'S SON—SPECIE IN BANK OF FRANCE.

PARIS, December 26.—Francois Hugo, son of Victor Hugo, died to-day, aged forty-five years.

The specie in the bank of France increased thirteen million francs during the week.

Marine News.

LIVERPOOL, December 25.—Steamship Sidonia, from New York, and Caspian, from Baltimore, arrived out.

European Markets.

PARIS, December 26, 1873.—Rentes, 58 francs 45 centimes.

THE WEATHER.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF SIGNAL OFFICER,
WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 26, 1 A. M.

PROBABILITIES.

For New England and thence westward over the northern portion of the Middle States and the lower lake region, generally cloudy weather, with snow and light to fresh variable winds, will prevail. For the southern portion of the Middle States and thence southward over the South Atlantic States, partly cloudy and foggy weather with light to fresh southwesterly winds, increasing pressure and light changes of temperature. For the Ohio Valley and thence northward over the Upper Lake region, increasing pressure, lower temperature with generally cloudy weather and snow, followed by cloudy weather in the afternoon. For the northwest cloudy weather and light snow in the river valleys, followed by clearing and cold weather and fresh to brisk northerly winds during the afternoon. For the Gulf States and thence northward over Tennessee, increasing pressure with lower temperature, northerly winds and clearing weather. For the canal region of New York, the temperature will fall below freezing during Saturday night.

Midnight Bulletin.

DECEMBER 26, 1873—10:48 P. M.

PLACE OF OBSERVATION.	Ther.	Wind.	Weather.
Cairo, Ills	34	N. W.	Cloudy.
Cincinnati, O	38	W. S. W.	Cloudy.
Davenport, Iowa	25	N. W.	Cloudy.
Keokuk, Iowa	26	N. W.	Cloudy.
Leavenworth, Ks	25	Calm.	Lt. snow.
Memphis, Tenn	40	N. W.	Cloudy.
Nashville, Tenn	25	Calm.	Lt. snow.
New Orleans, La	54	S. W.	Fair.
Omaha, Neb	18	N. W.	Lt. snow.
Pittsburgh, Pa	30	S.	Fair.
St. Louis, Mo	30	N. W.	Lt. snow.
Vicksburg, Miss	43	N.	Clear.
Indianapolis	34	W.	Threating.
LaCrosse	23	N.	Cloudy.
St. Paul	18	N.	Clear.
Pike's Peak	5	N.	Clear.
Ft. Gibson	39	N. W.	Clear.
Galveston	49	N. W.	Clear.

7 P. M. obsv.

NEWS SUMMARY.

BY TELEGRAPH.

Major Edward Wright, late paymaster in the United States Army, and one of the oldest and wealthiest citizens of Chicago, died suddenly in that city on Wednesday night at the residence of his father-in-law, Hon. E. Peck.

Judge Goodin, of the Seventh judiciary district of Kansas, has decided a test case involving the title of the Osage—ceded lands of the State—in favor of the settlers, holding that railroads have no grant through these lands. The case will probably be appealed.

A fearful storm raged along the coast of North Carolina on Christmas night, blowing down a number of small houses, uprooting trees, prostrating fences, &c.

Captain Turmont, late of the Ville du Havre, is out in a letter denying the statement of the Captain of the Loch Earn, and alleging that the latter vessel, by reason of showing no lights, was responsible for the accident.

Car Load of Christmas Organs.

The Erie *Dispatch*, 16th inst., says:

ANOTHER CAR LOAD OF BURDETT ORGANS.—At this time the Burdett Organ Company ship a car load of organs for the holidays to their Pittsburgh agent, H. Kleber & Bro., one of the oldest and most favorably known music houses in the country.

This firm is noted for keeping none but strictly first-class instruments for sale, and for selling them on the most reasonable terms. Any organ, piano or other instrument, whether a Burdett organ or a Steinway piano, &c., can be relied upon as being absolutely the best of their kind. Persons preferring flashy, cheap-made and superficially, though showily, got up instruments need not call at Kleber & Bro's, as the fine musical judgment, good taste and integrity of dealing of these gentlemen constrains them to keep none but the genuine and the best, even though the profits be much smaller than on flash goods.

RAILWAY MATTERS.

Annual Meeting of Bennett's Branch Company—Presentation to the Treasurer—Election of Surgeon.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

BROOKVILLE, PA., December 26, 1873.

The second annual meeting of the officers of the Bennett's Branch Railroad Company was held at the office of Esq. Martin on the 25th day of December. Col. George Vandvilett, the President, being called upon, made a full statement of the progress of said road. In the course of his remarks he spoke in high terms of the valuable services rendered by James L. Brown, chief manager, and W. D. I. Martin, Esq., Solicitor. The speech was received with loud applause. At the conclusion of his remarks he presented their worthy Treasurer, S. M. Timbroff, with a very fine chair in appreciation of his services. The Treasurer made a very neat little speech, thanking the company for the honor. He then made a full and concise statement of the financial condition of the company, which will be printed. Dr. W. D. I. McKnight was elected surgeon of the road, after which the meeting adjourned.

STATE NEWS.

John Bauer, aged seventeen years, was killed in Easton on the 24th inst. by being thrown from a wagon.

The file, saw and ax factories in Beaver will resume full time, full pay, &c., on Monday, January 5th.

A new Republican paper, it is said, will soon be started in Beaver. The *Argus and Radical* already has the field, and the new comer will have small encouragement.

The miners at the Cranberry Coal Mines, in Venango County, have received no pay for two months, and their families are said to be suffering for food.

The Franklin Savings Bank and Safe Deposit Company, of Chambersburg, will commence business on the 29th inst.

Eliza Thompson, colored, was taken sick in church, on Sunday night, 21st inst., and died soon after reaching home.

A Mrs. Christman was thrown from a buggy in Hamilton township, Franklin county, on the 22d inst., and killed.

The Chickies rolling mill (Lancaster county) resumed work on Monday, starting up with a full force of hands.

Samuel Walters, colored, was found dead in his bed in Pocopson township, Lancaster county, on the 22d inst.

A Venango county farmer made the guests at his daughter's wedding pay for their dinner and horse-feed.

The Cambria Iron Company's new blast furnace is fast approaching completion. It is now entirely under roof, and almost ready for the machinery and apparatus to be placed in position.

The jailor at Uniontown is worrying over the mathematical problem of how to get eighteen prisoners into sixteen single beds.

Mr. and Mrs. Michael K. Boyer, of Reading, celebrated their golden wedding on Christmas day—they having been married fifty years. Mr. Boyer is in his seventy third year, and Mrs. Boyer in her seventy-second year.

On Saturday last, near Hensingerville, Berks county, James Neiman, while working in the iron mines at that place, was instantly killed by some rock falling on him. He was a single man.

A child named Carnahan was fatally burned on Monday last, in Kittanning, by its clothes taking fire.

The steamships Holsatia, from Hamburg and Cuba, from Liverpool, have arrived at New York.

Great Inducements for Cash

For four and all kinds of groceries at the Checkered Front.

THE GREAT
White River Flour
MANUFACTURED UNDER
MY NEW PATENT.
I will Guarantee this Flour
To make More and Better Bread than can be made from any other Flour in the World, or the money Money Refunded if Flour is not as represented.
25 Cents per Barrel on Flour
FOR PROMPT CASH.
Remember, Only in Pittsburgh or by Express. All Groceries Low
No Charge for Drayag

☞ *Advertisements on this page, under the several heads of* WANTED, FOR SALE, FOR RENT, *&c., will be inserted at transient rates only*—TEN CENTS *per line for each insertion. No advertisement less than* FIFTY CENTS.

WANTED.

WANTED—FURNISHED ROOM—IN private family, with good board. Address, Cooks and general housework girls want work. Also nurse girls. Apply at Employment office, No. 1 Sixth street, Pittsburgh.

WANTED—TO SELL—THE HANDSOMEST Stock and Grain Farm in Kansas; all fenced; 7 miles from Leavenworth, 18 from Kansas City, 2 miles from two rail roads. Good schools, churches, &c. Only $20 per acre. Address, Box 1873, Leavenworth, Kansas. 640 acres; 320 improved; wood, water and prairie. Horses, cattle, sheep, hogs, orchard, &c., &c. Price $13,000 for improved, or $10,000 for the 640. For full particulars address H. R. HAMMOND, Box 7, Leavenworth, Kansas.

WANTED—PURCHASERS—FOR Cheap Lands. I am prepared to furnish cheap Mineral, Coal and Timber Lands, in tracts from 1,000 to 10,000 Acres each in the States of Arkansas, Texas, East and West Virginia and Kentucky. These lands are well located on navigable streams, accessible by railroads, and will be sold low for cash or exchanged for city or county property at its market value by applying to F. C. KEYS, 74 Smithfield street, Pittsburgh, Pa. Pennsylvania, Missouri and Michigan Pine Lands made a specialty.

PERSONAL.

PERSONAL.—AN EDITOR OF SIX years experience on a leading daily paper in New York, desires a similar position on either a Daily or Weekly paper in Pittsburgh or vicinity. Address, Southwestern States, Address CLINTON, Commercial office, Pittsburgh, Pa.

FOR SALE.

FOR SALE—BELTING AND HOSE—Pure Oak Tanned Leather Belting and Hose, at HANTLEY, MCKEE & CO'S, 58 Smithfield street.

FOR SALE—PUTS AND CALLS—ON all active New York Stocks at $10 0 if buy privileges for 100 shares for 30 days. For full information call on or address LITTLE & CHENEY, KAUFFMAN Broker, 96 Fourth avenue, Pittsburgh, Pa.

FOR SALE—SECOND-HAND MACHINERY—One 24 inch Rose Surface; 1 No. 4 Moulder, 3 sides; three 8x16, one 7x14 and one 8x20 inch Rollers, all in good order. M. B. COCHRAN & CO., 121 Liberty street.

FOR SALE—A. S. CAMERON & CO.'S Steam Pumps, suitable for every purpose to which steam can be applied. Having been largely improved, we offer them at the best and cheapest in the market. TWOMEY & CHAFFEY, corner Penn avenue and Liberty street, Pittsburgh, Pa.

FOR SALE—HOTEL—THE LEASE, Stock and Furniture of the Brooklawn House, Philadelphia; 125 rooms pitteated on Chestnut street; a good trade per bed; prices reasonable; the coming Centennial. For further particulars and reference, apply to WM. J. GALLAGHER, 936 Manilla street, Philadelphia, Pa.

FOR SALE—ENGINES AND BOILERS—New and second-hand, of all sizes. Stationary and Portable, up to 60 horse power, now on hand. WM. HILL & CO., corner Marion avenue and P., Ft. W. & C. R. R., Allegheny, Pa.

FOURTH AVENUE BAPTIST CHURCH—Rev. R. W. PEARSON, D. D., Pastor, will conduct worship To-morrow (Sunday), at the Morning Services and Sunday School Evening at 7½ o'clock. Morning discourse a Review of the Events of the Past Year and Expectations of the Year to come. Evening address, "Eyes Backward and Forward." Subject, "Eyes Backward and Forward." Sunday School at 2. You are invited.

OFFICE OF CONTROLLER OF ALLEGHENY COUNTY, PITTSBURGH, PA., December 26 1873.

NOTICE.

Sealed Proposals

Will be received at this office until the 3d day of January, 1874, inclusive, for making 107 OFFICE DUPLICATES, 108 SCHOOL DUPLICATES and 107 COLLECTION DUPLICATES, FOR YEAR 1874.

Forms of the Books required can be seen in the Office of the County Commissioners.

HENRY WARNER, County Controller.

ELECTION NOTICES.

ALLEGHENY REAL ESTATE BANK.—The Annual Election for Nine Directors to serve for the ensuing year, will be held at the Banking House, on MONDAY, January 5th, 1874, between the hours of 12 o'clock noon and 2 P. M.

W. A. CLEMENS, Cashier.

MANSFIELD COAL AND COKE COMPANY.—ANNUAL MEETING AND ELECTION.—The Annual Meeting of the Stockholders of the Mansfield Coal and Coke Company will be held at the office of the Secretary, No. 31 Fifth avenue, second story, office of the Edgar Thomson Steel Works,) on WEDNESDAY, January 28th, 1874, at 3 o'clock P. M., to hear the report of the Board of Directors for the ensuing year, and act upon such other business as may be brought before them.

WM. P. SHINN, Secretary.

December 27th, 1873. dec27-10 17-24-28

ELECTION NOTICE—UNITED STATES BANK OF PITTSBURGH, PA.—The Annual Election of Directors of this Bank will be held at their Banking House, No. 123 Fourth avenue, on MONDAY, January 12th, 1874, between the hours of 11 A. M. and 1 P. M.

JOHN P. RIDALL, Cashier.

Pittsburgh, December 26, 1873.

FREEHOLD BANK AND BUILDING ASSOCIATION.—The Annual Election for Directors of this Bank will be held at their banking house, No. 68 Smithfield street, in said city, on MONDAY, January 5, 1874, between the hours of 2 and 4 o'clock in the afternoon.

THOMAS STEEL, Secretary and Treasurer.

Pittsburgh, December 24, 1873.

THE IRON CITY NATIONAL BANK OF PITTSBURGH.—An Election for Thirteen Directors of this Bank will be held at the Banking House, on TUESDAY, January 13, 1874, between the hours of 1 and 3 P. M.

GEO. R. DUNCAN, Cashier.

Pittsburgh, December 13, 1873.

SOUTH SIDE SAVINGS BANK.—The Annual Election for Directors of this Bank to serve for the ensuing year, will be held at the Banking House, on TUESDAY, January 13th, 1874, between the hours of 2 and 4 o'clock P. M.

J. BIGGER, Cashier.

Pittsburgh, December 23, 1873.

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE PITTSBURGH AND PHILADELPHIA OIL COMPANY, for the election of a Board of Directors will be held at the Office of the Company, 76 Wood street, on WEDNESDAY, January 7, 1874.

B. S. FARNESTOCK, Secretary.

GERMAN NAT

The Daily Commercial.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 27, 1873.

The Constitutional Convention will reassemble, at Harrisburg, to-day. Delegates are required to provide themselves with certified copies of the returns of the recent elections in their respective counties.

THE New York *Herald* has some favorable mention of a recently published volume fancifully entitled "Cobwebs from an Empty Skull." Strange to relate, the book is not a collection of its own editorial essays.

THE better tone in the local iron trade, noted for some time past, still prevails, the sales, as reported elsewhere in this morning's COMMERCIAL, being quite large. For some of the favorite brands an advance in price is asked.

THE fellow who made himself spokesman for the crowd of unemployed people in Chicago, demanding bread or work, was a young lawyer, who never did a day's work and was in no need of bread. It was a cheap way to earn notoriety, and the demagogue could not resist the temptation.

A NEW YORK paper makes an earnest demand for the punishment of those who assisted to put the TWEED gang into power, and who kept it there. This, perhaps, would be nothing more than justice, but it is impracticable; for the reason that it would involve the conviction and chastisement of almost the entire Democratic party of the Empire State.

CRITICISM, when highly intended and ingenuously offered, is often of great service to its object. But when, as is at present the case, the European papers are lifting up their voices in pragmatical censoriousness against us because of the abundance of crime in this country, it may do no harm to remind them of the fact that, although foreigners compose only one-sixth of our population, they commit one-third of the offenses.

THE export statistics of New York for the week ending last Wednesday, indicate a very satisfactory condition of our foreign trade. These exports were $5,548,847, mixed values—an increase over the preceding week of $172,-932. The exports for the corresponding period of last year were $4,734,886, and for 1871, $4,048,894. The total exports since January 1st, this year, are $293,273,871, against $236,-027,474 last year, and $237,354,041 in 1871.

THE State Grange of Patrons of Husbandry will meet in Harrisburg in annual session on Wednesday, January 7, 1874, at 2 P. M. Small politicians of the Democratic school, who have a newly developed but remarkably strong affection for farmers in general, will no doubt be on hand in force. They have just about time enough to rub hay-seed through their hair, and get up the proper degree of rustiness in the color of their boots and clothing.

CONGRESS is entitled to credit for insisting on the necessity of cutting the governmental estimates down to the very lowest figure consistent with a due regard for the interests of the public service. That is to say, it will be so entitled as soon as it cuts off its own increase and restores the old standard of pay. To be sure it would have looked somewhat more consistent if that body had effected this reduction before calling on the departments to retrench; but better late than never.

APROPOS of the dense fogs in which a number of our cities were lately veiled, the New York *Herald* thinks they are often the prelude to droughts, pestilence and volcanic eruptions." If this is the case—considering the hazy obscurity and confusedness of that paper's late yaticinations regarding the Virginius difficulty and public questions and concerns in general—what its readers will presently be called upon to endure is positively frightful to contemplate.

WE could never quite understand how it came to pass that such representative Democrats as Congressmen COX and HOLMAN should have voted, in cancelling for the repeal of the salary-grab law. A Bourbon paper out West, however, furnishes a clue to the mystery by declaring, on the authority of "returning members," that they were both in an advanced stage of exhilaration when they dropped into" the meeting. How they would have voted under other conditions is not intimated.

THERE is a why for every wherefore. Virginia is in the hands of the Bourbons; and—we do not affirm it as a direct consequence, although it looks mightily like it—is retrograding most shamefully in the matter of public shools, the report of the superintendent of public instruction for this year showing a falling off of 5,518 schools since last year. This is not an encouraging indication as respects the future welfare of that State—but it furnishes an excellent guarantee of continued Democratic ascendancy.

SICKLES, it is said, is mad because the State Department did not follow his lead in the Virginius affair. He was led by the nose in New York into the belief that the country was clamorous for a war with Spain, and he gauged his action accordingly. He is now mortified to find that he mistook the national sentiment, and having shown so much eagerness to play the bully, in which he was rebuked by the calmer and more peaceful action of the government at home, he naturally wants to resign and come home.

As one result of the recent troubles in Japan, part of the students who are being educated at the Michigan University, have been recalled. These students were sent by the general government of Japan; and the Mikado now finds it difficult enough to support his own power without defraying the expenses of a hundred or more students. The young Japanese are reported to express great dissatisfaction at their recall, and to seem very loth to leave their studies. The order reached them the day before Christmas.

IT is affirmed that certain over-sensitive United States Senators are considering the question of introducing a bill "to regulate the reporters of the Senate," the design being to prevent correspondents from saying what they choose about the members of that body. No doubt the liberty of the press is sometimes grossly abused by unscrupulous writers, but any attempt to gag it so as to prevent the freest criticism of the actions or opinions of our public servants will incur, as it will deserve to do, the severest condemnation of the whole people.

CHRISTMAS has come and gone; but the chord which it touched continues, let us hope, to vibrate through all hearts; lifting us out of ourselves and interesting us in the hopes, the aims, the struggles and the experiences of those around us. It is a good thing to know that the most gracious, beneficent, humanizing season of the year is a time whose honor grows and whose benefits broaden year by year in our country, so that from an exceptional it has now become a general festival, as in old mother Europe. How vital, how immortal must not the bright occasion be that is able thus to inspire successive generations of people with the same profound sentiment!

JUDGE BLACK has an article in the January number of the *Galaxy*, in which, while giving his estimate of the late Secretary SEWARD, he also takes occasion indirectly to belittle the genius and character of President LINCOLN. That, in reality, it is the great dead measuring the puny living; LINCOLN comprehending BLACK, instead of being comprehended by him. The latter could not sympathize with, and therefore was altogether incapable of estimating, the exalted nobility of the nature of such a man as LINCOLN. What the critic has done—none the less actually because unintentionally—has been, simply, to place the acknowledgement of this glaring defect in his own character on permanent record. And he has done it unblushingly.

THE acquittal of ex-Mayor HALL, in New York, is not surprising. He was Mayor during the time of TWEED's reign in that city, and a member of the Board which passed the bills through which TWEED swindled the city; but, although he was presumed to know all about what was going on around him, it has never been shown that he profited, personally, by the rascalities of the men associated with him. He ought to have known that TWEED, and SWEENEY, and CONNOLLY were cheating the city, and it is hard, from the evidence, not to believe that he did know; but his hands were otherwise clean, and the fact that he had handled and received none of the stolen dollars has operated to bring about his acquittal. His offense, at best, was a technical one; and as he has learned a good lesson from his experience, he will probably be more careful hereafter, and keep out of such scrapes altogether.

SOME TIME ago we published in the COMMERCIAL an extracted article on a furnace that burns coal dust, the improvement being represented as an English invention, perfected after several years of constant labor and experiment. It now appears that the invention is really American, and its date anterior to the incipient though claimed in England. As long ago as 1867 Dr. HAYES, an eminent scientist of Massachusetts, instituted a series of successful experiments in this direction, constructing a machine in which, by rapid motion, the coal-refuse became more finely pulverized; a stream of air from the bellows being driven through it, carrying the dust in a graduated quantity, and largely mixed with atmospheric air, over the stationary bed of ignited fuel. The principle would seem to be worth the careful attention of those employing furnaces to drive engines, &c.; since, if, in this way, the dust could be made available as fuel, the invention would be almost invaluable.

THE ALTERNATIVES.

A contemporary placing together our national debt, the debts of the States, cities, counties and towns, the debts of individuals, and the amount of railroad bond and mortgage indebtedness, finds the grand total to be about $12,-000,000,000, the interest upon which sum at 7 per cent. is $840,000,000. As, according to the census of 1870, the official valuation of the property of the United States was $30,000,000,-000, this sum would have to yield about 3 per cent. in order to pay the mere interest of our indebtedness. A very large proportion of the sum yielding absolutely nothing, the remainder greater or less must, by its annual increase, pay the immense interest account lying against us before a dollar can be added to the permanent wealth of the country, or the burden of debt begin to be lightened.

It is not necessary to admit the absolute accuracy of the foregoing statement in order to admit the general correctness of the impression it conveys. There is good reason to believe that the official estimate of the national wealth, as presented in the census of 1870, fell considerably short of the actual amount. In one great section of the country, in the States lately in rebellion, the condition of things existing made the gathering of needful details impossible, and in the development which has since taken place, it is safe to assume an increase not to be measured by general economical laws. In the rest of the Union, after making all necessary allowances for fictitious agencies and results, comprehensive prosperity in all departments of business has marked the years since the estimate was made, and in connection with the exceptionally favorable position of the country warrants the most cheerful assumptions as to the growth of wealth. Still, comparing our actual indebtedness, not with the estimate of the census of 1870, but with the probable wealth of to-day, it must seem enormous even to the least imaginative reader of figures; so enormous, indeed, that definite conceptions of it are not easily acquired, and that a few millions or even a few billions, more or less (on paper), may seem to make little, if any, practical difference. The vastness of our indebtedness in relation even to the most liberal estimate of our wealth is a stubborn, irresistible fact, which cannot be got rid of either by hope or fancy, or by the most brilliant and persuasive rhetoric in which hope or fancy can find expression. The fact, however disagreeable, must be bravely confronted and practically dealt with, if the American people are to prosper financially in the future as in the past, or to maintain a respectable position among the nations of the earth.

It is certainly far from flattering either to our hopes or our self-complacency to behold the attitude with which many of our legislators in Washington and elsewhere approach and handle the financial situation. Those who treat it either as a party question or as presenting an opportunity for partisan warfare and possible partisan triumph, simply dishonor themselves in the eyes of their countrymen, while they dishonor their country in the eyes of foreigners. The situation is the complicated and perilous result of trials and struggles which the nation encountered in the course of its growth and which it could not have avoided without disgrace and ruin, and the politician who seeks now to acquire temporary popularity, at the expense of national degradation, deserves to lose whatever credit he may have gained by patriotic services in other days. Nor will the dishonor of a public man be much less flagrant or less merited, if impelled by self-conceit or unrestrained by a knowledge of his own ignorance, he persists in recommending foolish financial schemes and theories as remedies for the general troubles. It is nothing less than alarming to see with what patience and toleration some of these absurd projects are listened to and treated by Congressmen who undoubtedly have too much sense and knowledge to think them worthy of a moment's serious consideration.

Evidently the time has come when no temporizing or tinkering measures are of any good, and when well-informed legislators should take a firm, decided stand in favor of the only financial policy which can secure the national future. The American people have often been dishonored by their House of Representatives; but their intelligence was never so discreditably compromised as by the Congress which listens respectfully to financial projects which every schoolboy knows, or ought to know, are the merest dreams of empty heads; that is, where they are not entertained and recommended for the mere purpose of postponing an evil day, or else for the sake of the temporary advantages which individuals or classes hope to derive from their operation. Indeed, there may be some reason to fear that one reason of the tolerance accorded to the inflationists in Congress is the hope that, in mere despair of any other measure, all may at length swallow the nostrum, and thus make it impossible for any man or party to reproach another.

As already remarked by an able New York journal, the nation was never before in a more perilous position, not even when a rebel army was marching on Washington. The alternative before us is either coolly looking at our debts and our resources, to resolve to move steadily however painfully forward on the foundation of fact and reality, in the assurance that by patience and fidelity to honor and to the well established laws of trade, we shall at length attain to a prosperity so solid as to be immovable; or, on the other hand, refusing to regard either facts or economical laws, go on in the reckless, desperate ways which seem good to speculators and gamblers, with the certainty of national bankruptcy and a dishonored national name before us.

ECONOMY IN STATE EXPENDITURES.

The Legislature, when it meets, will find itself confronted with the duty of arranging the details of putting the new Constitution in operation; and we trust the members will come to the discharge of that duty with a determination to give that instrument the fairest possible chance. The tax laws will have to be revised; the judicial districts will have to be rearranged; the number of general laws will have to be enlarged, in order to meet the contingencies heretofore provided for by special legislation; and the entire machinery of the State will have to be readjusted.

All these are serious duties, but the most difficult of all the tasks imposed upon the Legislature will be to so arrange the financial system of the State as not to increase the burdens of the people, and yet be able to meet all the demands upon the public purse that arise legitimately.

This result cannot be accomplished without keeping the strictest economy constantly in view, and the first step, we take it, in that direction, is to reverse the present almost irresistible tendency towards higher salaries for public officials. We know we are treading on delicate ground, here, and may hurt the toes of some whose feet are in the way; but our mind is clear to the general fact that if we are to have more judges, we cannot pay them higher salaries without increasing taxation. The alternative is a plain one, and easily understood; and being heartily opposed to any increase of taxation, we cannot favor the increase of salaries.

The State debt has got to be met and extinguished within the present century. We have been reducing it at the rate of one-and-a-half to two millions a year, lately; but if it is reduced at the rate of one million a year, hereafter, we shall be doing well enough, and be going along fast enough. The Sinking Fund, therefore, should be framed on that basis, and such revenue set apart for it as will extinguish it in the next twenty-five years.

Beyond that, there is a million annually to be given to common schools, and from four hundred thousand to half a million, for several years yet, to the soldiers' orphan schools. These, with legislative and governmental expenses, with the cost of penitentiaries and insane asylums, and the pay of judges will constitute the bulk of State expenditures. A very great portion of these expenditures will consist of items that cannot be cut down; but there will be other items that will be under legislative control, and it is in arranging these that the spirit of economy will have to be called into play.

We invoke the constant presence of that spirit in the legislative halls the coming winter. The tendency to increased salaries must be met and overcome. The pressure for the highest figures by all who have their eyes fixed on places they expect to be carved out or themselves will be severe and persistent; but as the members of the coming session of the Legislature must provide for *raising* the revenue as well as for its appropriation, they will do well to bear in mind that the burdens of taxation fall on all, whilst the benefits of large expenditures fall to but a few. Happy will it be for the many if *their* interests shall prove predominant with their representatives; and woe to the representative who forgets them.

THE blatant and scurrilous mouthings and frothings of TOOMBS, the unrepentant and unhung Georgia traitor—whereto we recently made some brief reference—at length are beginning to promise their legitimate results. A number of representative Bourbons in that State have lately expressed themselves in favor of abrogating the political compact with the general government, by which, some four years ago, Georgia was admitted to representation in the Congress of the United States. They want the "real people" of Georgia to call a convention for the purpose of declaring "the great organic laws of the State, and of returning as far as practicable to the old landmarks in the great past," on the ground that the present constitution and laws of Georgia were made "principally by aliens, strangers and fools." The return which these chivalrous rebels make for the unparalleled clemency and magnanimity which they have experienced at the hands of the people and its government, is absolutely wonderful. Their loyalty consists in hating the United States flag and teaching their children to look upon it as the emblem of degradation and thraldom, while their conservatism takes the form of implacable antipathy toward everything which in the least degree savors of freedom, progression, ascension, and of the higher political, intellectual and moral vitalities and instrumentalities of the age. Let Congress pass that Civil Rights bill, and so carry the results of the war to a more logical and enduring conclusion, without delay.

CENTRALISM.

There is much more danger of Centralism than of Cæsarism—of the centralization of power in the hands of Congress than of the assumption of imperial power by the President; and of the two, Cæsarism would be the least objectionable.

One of the first present evidences of this centralizing tendency is the bill which Mr. MCNULTA, of Illinois, has had referred, in Congress, to the Committee on Railways and Canals. It is entitled "A bill to regulate commerce on railways," and creates a Railroad Bureau at Washington, under the control of the Attorney General, which is to have almost unlimited jurisdiction over all the railways of the country, with power to regulate rates of passenger fares and freight, and to limit the profits of railroad stockholders. In effect, it provides for a governmental seizure of all the railroads in the country, and for running them under governmental control; and the head of the Railroad Bureau, under this bill, would be the center of the most gigantic "ring" that was ever formed in this or any other nation.

When power like this begins to accumulate in the hands of the general government, we may begin to write the history of its downfall. No government, republican in form, can safely undertake to exercise despotic powers. A "parental" government, which undertakes to do everything for its citizens, must necessarily be a government of unlimited powers; and the United States government, while it retains its present form, being one of extremely limited powers, can never be "parental" or "strong" enough for such work as Mr. MCNULTA would impose upon it. We may live to see the day when individual enterprise will be crushed out and governmental enterprise will do everything; but we hardly expect to see such a government carried on under the pretence of being a Republic.

GOOD. A very determined feeling is understood to prevail in administration circles, that in future the sailing of filibustering expeditions from our shores for Cuba must be prevented. Steps have already been taken that will arrest any movement which Cubans residing in the United States may have in progress to extend aid to their comrades in Cuba.

GENERAL AND PARTICULAR.

What a multitude of innocent fibs have been told about old Santa Claus this week. Well, well. The person who cannot coin a thousand fancies concerning him with becoming zest, and enter into them heart and soul, deserves to be banished at Christmas times.

"Presents," says gentle, quaint and genial Elia, "endear absents."

This is the time to prepare good resolutions for the coming year, but remember that willing is no true willing if it does not prove itself in doing.

The grasping hand gathers nothing; the scattering hand alone is filled with increase. "He that loveth his life shall lose it; and he that hateth his life shall keep it."

Did you hear the sweet profanity of the little children on Christmas eve? "Oh, hang your stockings!" was chirruped in counties households in the land.

How did you spend Christmas? It is not merely representative of a religious event; but to all it means the celebration of the festival of a sacrificial love, a loosening of the bonds of self, a cementing of the ties that bind us to the larger family.

In making presents, bear in mind that, just as home is where the heart is, so is a gift that which the heart makes it, whether the heart be that of the donor or the recipient.

But the gifts of the season are not necessarily material or tangible; for a word, a smile, a kindly act may prove, in many an instance, the most welcome and acceptable of all presents.

The man who dared. The San Francisco lawyer who married Laura Fair.

Poor preach, poor pay? A country clergyman in Illinois succeeds in living on ninety cents a week.

The latest inducements thrown around new comers to secure their presence has been made in the Indian Nation. There they will give you a farm if you marry a squaw.

The people of Chicago are now wondering what Shakspeare meant by the passage: "My chief care is to come fairly off from the great debts wherein my time, something too prodigal, hath left me Gaged."

Ah! we like brevity and simplicity. A recently published German pamphlet has this epigrammatic and lucid title: "Bundesverfassungsverwerfungsfolksversammlungsethilss."

It is asserted that an order has already gone forth in Cuba for the sale of ten thousand negroes emancipated by their former owners, in contravention of treaty. Shame!

The suggestion is made that the month of February be specially devoted to the returning and reclaiming of "borrowed books."

The question of the better protection of emigrants will come up in Congress soon after the recess. It will be treated in two separate measures. One bill will provide for safety of transit on the ocean, and the other after landing.

And now also the Turkish, Japanese and Chinese Governments have accepted our Government's invitation to assist at the great centennial exposition.

Think of fattening hogs on figs! Why, it almost makes an Israelite break his vow against pork. California papers advise greater cultivation of the fig tree because the food is so good for hog feed. An acre of figs will fatten more hogs than will an acre of corn.

A New York journal has discoved a new industry in that city, the professors of which it terms "file filers." It seems that there are a dozen or more persons in the city who save all the papers that come into their possession.

The advocates of a commission to devise plans for preventing collision at sea say that all the maritime nations will unite to make a law governing this matter. The steamship owners will not act together in the matter, as they are too much disposed to racing.

It will surprise many persons to learn that Philadelphia ranks next after New York among the ports of the Atlantic seaboard in the amount of its grain exports, and is increasing this branch of trade much more rapidly than any of them.

When workingmen learn that a strike against a falling market was never successful, and that trades-unions, as an organization for the purpose of raising wages, could never do more than assist the workman to obtain an advance at a somewhat earlier date than that at which the competition among employers would have brought about the same result, the expensive luxury will probably be indulged in a good deal more sparingly.

The Colorado farmers do not take kindly to the proposed grand scheme for irrigating the waste places of that Zion.

Since the sale of the New Orleans *Picayune* the southern metropolis has been left without a single organ of the pure and unadulterated, fire-eating, ancient and honorable white man's party, published in the English language.

The destruction of trees in England is attracting discussion. A distinguished member of a county board of agriculture, at a recent meeting, expressed the opinion that if the practice of destroying trees and hedges went on at the present rate there would be no shade left, and "the cows would have to carry parasols."

The Hudson river bridge, when completed, will be the largest structure of the kind in the world.

The lobbyists demand higher prices for their services this year than heretofore. They say that committees are not so easy to satisfy by tables of prepared figures as they have been.

The Granger organization has raised $100,000 during the year, has paid its debts, and has a surplus of $50,000, of which $40,000 have been invested in government bonds.

There are said to be two men in Connecticut who can read Elliott's Indian Bible with the greatest facility, but they are white men. Are there any Indians who can read it?

THE NEW CONSTITUTION.

Official Returns of the Vote on Its Adoption

We give below the official vote on the new Constitution, as received at the State Department, in all the counties of the State:

	For.	Ag'st.		For.	Ag'st.
Adams	687	2461	Juniata	931	639
Allegheny	18315	1895	Lancaster	8102	4447
Armstrong	2456	1617	Lawrence	2588	263
Beaver	2037	1159	Lebanon	1576	1849
Bedford	2211	774	Lehigh	3072	1897
Berks	9114	1866	Luzerne	5689	2591
Blair	1782	2248	Lycoming	3814	1747
Bradford	4340	1193	M'Kean	1093	64
Bucks	4445	2925	Mercer	3-90	2 94
Butler	1377	496	Mifflin	1599	376
Cambria	1972	1813	Monroe	1640	384
Cameron	179	50	Montgomery	6354	2959
Carbon	1742	699	Montour	1065	184
Centre	2911	1077	Northampton	3945	2581
Chester	5630	791	Northumberland	2170	1641
Clarion	2987	945	Perry	1491	1916
Clearfield	1425	1222	Philadelphia	59114	24991
Clinton	2374	161	Pike	668	63
Columbia	2668	784	Potter	549	617
Crawford	5608	841	Schuylkill	6156	2939
Cumberland	3360	1664	Snyder	498	2256
Dauphin	3119	4523	Somerset	892	2972
Delaware	1866	797	Sullivan	584	197
Elk	592	229	Susquehanna	2913	331
Erie	6624	742	Tioga	2591	1910
Fayette	2727	883	Union	1599	317
Forest	330	18	Venango	4716	189
Franklin	2994	3275	Warren	2487	128
Fulton	893	98	Washington	4626	638
Greene	1893	1854	Wayne	1869	257
Huntingdon	2468	494	Westmoreland	4481	2456
Indiana	1599	3152	Wyoming	1756	125
Jefferson	1396	912	York	4514	3091
Total vote				253744	108594
Majority				108594	
				145150	

PERSONAL.

The religious views of President Lincoln seem likely to become as great a bone of contention as the letters of Junius, or as to the man who struck Billy Patterson. Orthodoxy first rallied to the front, and claimed him as all its own. Then Mr. Herndon put in an appearance, and showed conclusively that Mr. Lincoln was an infidel. And now Robert Collyer demonstrates that Lincoln was not Orthodox or infidel, but occupied a middle ground, on which he accepted neither.

A good deal has been said about the return to the stage of affairs of A. H. Stephens. This peculiar old wreck is the grandson of a soldier in Braddock's army, who immigrated to Georgia in the first year of Washington's administration. The old soldier lived until Stephens was a year old. Stephens' father married an almanac-maker, and was a poor simple-minded man. After a delicate youth and a rapid education, A. H. Stephens was admitted to the bar, and in 1843 he came to Congress. For the brutal elements of character which Jefferson Davis possessed Stephens substituted rather spiritual elements, and he was a prophet and ghost of the Pro-Slavery Confederacy; and now he is in Congress again, an utterly unclassible person, as fully lost in that body as a hospital-veteran in the streets of New York.

The case of Genet recalls one or two interesting historical incidents. An ancestor of his, known as "Citizen Genet," was the first representative of the first French Republic to the capital of the American Republic, which was then the city of New York. This same Citizen Genet was married at the Walton House, which is still standing on Franklin Square, nearly opposite Harpers' publishing house, and there was a grand wedding, at which Washington was present. Genet afterward got into trouble and was recalled.

Hugh Miller, whose fame is world-wide, was first brought to the notice of scientific men by Prof. Agassiz. At a meeting of the British Scientific Society, Miller, who was then a common day laborer, approached Agassiz with a specimen of rock in his hand, and began making certain inquiries concerning it. During the conversation that ensued, Agassiz discovered that this common day laborer was possessed of a large fund of geological information, which he had acquired by personal investigations, induced solely by his innate love for the science. Agassiz was delighted at meeting him, and introduced Miller to the members of the society, explaining the manner in which he had become acquainted with him. The friendships thus formed continued through their lives, and Agassiz wrote the introduction to Hugh Miller's first published work.

Hans Christian Andersen, the eminent Danish writer of juvenile literature, is so great a sufferer from debility and ill health, that with his advanced age, his early death is anticipated. He has been unable for some months to see visitors, or to read, or even to write his autograph. His affection for the United States and its people continue unabated, however, and notwithstanding his feeble condition, he has given brief interviews to one or two of our countrymen when they called to inquire of his health.

Recently Thurlow Weed and Henry Smith were closeted with Tweed in the penitentiary, and directly thereafter Tweed's private secretary was closeted with him four hours. There is a supposition abroad that an effort is making to have the old man divulge some rather important though unpleasant facts.

A book by Bishop Berkeley has just been republished, and the papers are quite full of reviews, nearly all of them referring to the good old man as the author of the well known line:

"Westward the star of empire takes its way."

What he did write was:

Westward the course of empire takes its way;
The first four acts already past
A fifth shall close the drama with the day,
Time's noblest offspring is the last.

THE "COMMERCIAL."

[From the Sharpsville Advertiser.]

The COMMERCIAL stands in the front rank of journalism, and is fully appreciated by all who perse its columns. As a newspaper, it has no rival outside of New York, a special feature of its management being special dispatches from all points where anything of interest transpires. In this respect it has no competition worth acknowledging in the State. We learn that twenty-five to thirty copies of the COMMERCIAL are sold daily at the news depot in this village, besides those received through the postoffice.

[From the Brownsville Clipper.]

The COMMERCIAL sustains a high character for editorial ability, the latest foreign and domestic news, and every species of information pertaining to finance, trade, commerce, polities, &c.

[From the Lebanon Courier.]

The Pittsburgh COMMERCIAL is the leading paper of Western Pennsylvania; indeed, it is one of the most enterprising and newsy and generally ably conducted papers in the country. It gives prominence to Science, Art, Invention, Agriculture and Manufacture, and is a paper for the business man and the family.

[From the Delaware County American.]

The Pittsburgh COMMERCIAL has no equal among the daily papers in Pennsylvania, and few if any superiors in the country. This is generally true of either daily or weekly, in quantity or quality of reading matter, fullness and reliability of market reports, and in the vim and ability manifested in the conduct of its editorial department, which was never in better hands than those of Hon. Russell Errett. Merchants having dealings with the West cannot afford to do without its market reports, and Republicans interested in political movements need the information always to be found in its columns.

[From the Massillon (O.) Independent.]

The COMMERCIAL is a staunch advocate of Republican doctrines, is the most reliable and enterprising of Pittsburgh dailies. Those of our readers who contemplate taking a paper from that locality will do well to consider the claims of the COMMERCIAL.

[From the Belmont (O.) Chronicle.]

The Pittsburgh COMMERCIAL is one of the most enterprising journals west of the Alleghenies. It always contains a full budget of home and foreign news, and the latest and most reliable market reports.

[From the Waynesburg Independent.]

We regard the Pittsburgh COMMERCIAL as among the best papers in all our exchanges for general news.

[From the Reading Times and Dispatch.]

The Pittsburgh COMMERCIAL, the model journal of Western Pennsylvania, will in a few days issue a magnificent Christmas edition of its newspaper. The COMMERCIAL is one of the most enterprising and ably-conducted papers in the country. It gives prominence to Science, Art, Invention, Agriculture and Manufacture, and is paper for the business man and the family.

[From the Salem (O.) Republican.]

The Pittsburgh COMMERCIAL is the leading financial and stock paper in Western Pennsylvania, and is much sought after by merchants and other business men.

[From the Beaver County Press.]

The Pittsburgh COMMERCIAL is known throughout the country as one of the ablest and most enterprising newspapers in the Mississippi valley, but here where it is a constant visitor at our firesides it needs no recommendation. It is the first Republican paper in Western Pennsylvania, and has an editorial staff equal in ability to to those of the principal dailies of the East. As a genuine newspaper it can't be beaten anywhere.

[From the Hollidaysburg Register.]

The Pittsburgh COMMERCIAL is one of the best newspapers in the country.

A New Project in Florida.

It will surprise many who think they know something about the Florida reefs, to learn that a plan to make Key West accessible by an all-rail route is under serious consideration, and that it has received the sanction of civil engineers and extorted the faith of some of the most sagacious business men of Florida. It is proposed to run a line of railway from Key West through Florida, crossing at right angles the railroad which extends from Cedar Keys on the Gulf to Fernandina on the ocean; thus making connection with Savannah and the great network of railways going north, south, east and west. To carry out the project it will be necessary to locate the road over more than 100 miles of islands, or keys, as they are here called, and the engineers report that this can be done without an extravagant outlay. According to their survey only one navigable stream would be crossed, and hence only one drawbridge would be necessary, while the grading at all points would be slight and inexpensive. Such a railroad would be a curiosity, but no greater marvel than the wonderful engineering of the Central Pacific and Chesapeake and Ohio Railroads. The profits would be expected in the immensely increased travel and trade between Cuba, Jamaica, Santo Domingo, and the Bahamas and the continental cities. If such a road were built and trains running on it now, it would be invaluable to the Government in case of war.

RELIGIOUS NEWS.

The new Methodist Church at McCoy's station, Ohio, will be dedicated Sabbath by Rev. J. B. Lorcas, instead of Rev. Alex. Clark, who is very ill.

The revival of the Methodist Episcopal Church, Carson street, South Side, is still going on.

Rev. J. L. Simpson, of the First Methodist Church, Allegheny City, who, for some time has been ill, is now filling his pulpit.

The sermon by Dr. Murray, at the First Methodist Church, Fifth avenue, Sabbath evening, was well received by all who heard it. Dr. Murray is an earnest worker and a Christian gentleman.

Rev. Mr. Butts, pastor of Smithfield Street Methodist Episcopal Church, is meeting with prosperity in his work. Mr. Butts has been very successful as a minister wherever he has labored.

Emory Methodist Episcopal Church, Dr. Davidson pastor, is enjoying a degree of prosperity.

Dr. Prestly, continues to hold services at Library Hall, each Sabbath.

The South Pittsburgh Baptist Church is doing a good work—especially through the Sabbath school.

Rev. J. S. Stuchell, pastor of the Presbyterian Church, Hazlewood, commenced to labor with his congregation some three years since, at which time there were twenty-seven members. He has now a membership of one hundred and twelve. The congregation is large and interesting.

A gracious revival is in progress at Beaver Falls Methodist Church. Rev. G. G. Westfall, pastor. About forty have united with the Church.

Rev. J. D. Herr will preach morning and evening in the Penn Avenue Baptist Church, on Sabbath next.

Rev. J. K. Melburn will preach in Grace Lutheran Church morning and evening.

Rev. Alex. Clark is still supplying Messiah Evangelical Lutheran Church.

Rev. J. H. Hull, President Pittsburgh Methodist Conference, will preach in the First Methodist Church, Allegheny City, on Sabbath morning and evening.

Services First Methodist Church, South Side, on Sabbath, by the pastor, Rev. J. B. Lucas. Subject—"Christian Armor."

A little boy, on his return from his Sabbath school treat, Christmas day, met a little schoolmate who told him that his father had been hurt and taken to the hospital, and he had no treat or present. The boy took out his box of candy and said, take this. He gave it all to the poor child, and ran home with a light heart. That boy is the son of a Methodist minister in this city.

A precious work of grace is now in progress in the Presbyterian Church at Prairie City, Illinois, the Rev. J. D. Howey, pastor.

Not less than seventy-five persons have professed conversion at the meeting in progress at the Second Baptist Church of Richmond, Virginia.

Bishop Paine is the senior bishop of the Methodist Episcopal Church South. He was elected with Bishop Capers at the first Southern General Conference, held in 1856.

The Rev. E. J. Wolf, of Baltimore, has been elected to the Professorship of Church History in the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg, Pennsylvania.

The First Presbyterian Church of Elmore, Ohio, was dedicated to the service of God, according to previous notice, on Sabbath, November 16th. The day was pleasant and inviting, and the congregation large.

The German Street Church in Philadelphia, at its annual meeting, found itself able to meet all its obligations without exhausting its treasury. An addition of $500 was also made to the salary of the pastor, the Rev. Mr. Keigwin.

Dr. Abel Stevens, who went to Florida some time since, for the benefit of his health, is writing some interesting letters for the *Methodist*.

Bishop Morris' residence "Salubria," at Springfield, Ohio, narrowly escaped destruction when the Depot Mill was consumed by fire on the 6th, being shattered considerably by the heat. Bishop Morris was removed to a neighbor's house when the fire commenced.

Rev. Asa White, of the California Conference, who recently died, aged seventy-seven, organized the first class in California at San Francisco, in 1849, and afterward the first class in the Humboldt Bay region.

Rev. S. H. Tyng, in the *Working Church*, has an able article in which he argues that the Lord's Supper is "a feast of believers," "open to every believer," and that every true believer actually does communne at the Lord's table in person or in spirit.

The following advertisement of a Protestant Episcopal church appeared in New York city papers last week: "Prayer for the holy dead will be said and the blessed sacrament administered to-morrow (Thursday) morning, at eight o'clock, at the church of St. Mary the Virgin, West Forty-fifth street, near Broadway.

Rev. S. P. Carleton, of Zanesville, Ohio, has accepted a call to the pastorate of the First Universalist Church in Pittsburgh, Pa.

The Pope recently said a speech that "philosophy, science, history, legislation, power, violence, inventions, and commerce are allied for the ruin of the church."

The Madison Square Presbyterian church, New York, has extended a unanimous call to Pastor Duryea, of Brooklyn, on a salary of $8,000 and $2,000 additional for house rent.

Rev. A. D. Simpson, Hamilton, C. W., has has been called to the pastorate of the Chestnut street Presbyterian church, Louisville Ky., the former pastorate of Gilbert H. Robertson; salary $5,000.

The Rev. Dr. Van Dyke, of Brooklyn, is delivering a course of Wednesday evening lectures on the Bible, its history, author's inspirations, &c. These lectures are very interesting, and are listened to by a great many persons who do not belong to Dr. Van Dyke's church.

The Rev. N. M. Wells, now of Erie, organized a church in Detroit in 1824. This was the first Presbyterian church ever organized in Michigan. By the report of the meeting of Synod for 1873, there are now one hundred and thirty-one churches and one hundred and forty-one ministers.

The Rev. Charles E. Knox, who for ten years past has been pastor of the Presbyterian church of Bloomfield, N. J., has decided to accept a professorship offered him in the German Theological Seminary at Newark. At the beginning of his labors there were two hundred and nine members; at present there are five hundred and six.

A new Presbyterian chapel was dedicated at Patterson, New York, November 23d, and an impressive sermon preached by the Rev. Dr Baird. The chapel was built principally from funds given by the late James Patterson, the remainder having been furnished by the Presbyterian church.

The Rev. J. M. Hamilton was installed pastor of the Plum Creek church, Philadelphia, Tuesday, November 18th, by the committee appointed by the Presbytery of Blairsville for that purpose.

At a recent communion in the Third Presbyterian church, of Chicago, the Rev. A. E Kittredge, pastor, twenty-five were added to its membership, and a great degree of interest is still manifest.

By permission of Chicago Presbytery, with which it is connected, the First Presbyterian church of Thorntion Station has changed its name to that of the First Presbyterian church of Homewood, thus making its present name correspond to the name of the place of its location.

The proposed International Camp Meeting at Round Lake, to begin July 8, 1874, has received the endorsement, approval and commendation of nine bishops, six presiding elders of the Troy Conference, the three missionary secretaries, several editors, and other church officers. The Methodist churches have been invited to take part in the services, and have accepted it.

In view of the great need of more Swedish Lutheran ministers in the West, the Rev. C. Anderson, an Anglicized Swede, has opened a theological department in connection with his mission institute at Keokuk, Iowa. The institutions of the mother country cannot supply the demand for preachers, hence this enterprise of Mr. Anderson. He has four or five students already.

Mansfield church, N. G. Miller, pastor. Reference was made to the improvements on this church and its re-opening, last week. All interested in this re-opening will bear in mind that the main audience room will be re-occupied next Sabbath, the 28th, with formal and appropriate services, morning and night. The pastor will be assisted by Revs. S. F. Minor, T. E. S. M. Newell, O. and A. Mills, James Hollingshead and T. H. Wilkenson. A cordial invitation is offered to ministers and members in the city and vicinity to attend the services.

The Fifth U. P. Church, Pittsburgh, corner of Webster avenue and Washington street, is in a state of entire harmony; their finances are in an excellent shape; the health of the pastor, Rev. S. B. Reed, is fully established, and he starts on his seventeenth year of service in this city with high hopes.

Rev. J. S. Speer, of Buena Vista, Pa., has accepted a unanimous call to Canonsburg Church, Cartiers Presbytery, and will enter upon his labors among that people at the first of the year. This congregation is one of the oldest in the church, and ever in high repute, and its numerous friends will rejoice in the prospect of its future prosperity. In the village of Canonsburg there is also another U. P. Church which bears the worthy name of Chartiers—sometimes mistakenly called the First Church of Canonsburg—of which Rev. D. M. B. McLean is pastor.

DRY GOODS

DRY GOODS, FOR Holiday Presents! AT

FINANCE AND TRADE.

FRIDAY EVENING, December 26, 1873.

The salient features of the financial situation are a comfortably easy money market, great activity in the retail trade of the city and a very quiet state of affairs among manufacturers.

Trade in nearly all the wholesale departments continues dull as usual, owing to the Holidays, and even dealers in notions and fancy goods complain that their sales are not up to the average, for while the money market is rather easier than is usual at this period of the year, the circulation of currency among the people is more than usually sluggish.

Thus, with a forced economy among the masses, and a disposition to husband resources, among those who are blessed with abundant means, there is much less indulgence in articles of luxury. In fact, it is a long time since the people felt as poor as they profess to feel—a poverty, it is hardly necessary to say, much more imaginary than real.

Messrs. Glendening, Davis & Armory, No. 17 Wall street, New York, furnish the following report of the financial situation on the day prior to Christmas.

The day preceding Christmas has been signalized on the Stock Exchange by the usual joyous demonstrations among the brokers, and business was given way to mirth and fun. Both the Gold and Stock Exchanges adjourned at one o'clock sharp until Friday, the Cotton Exchange having suspended business until next Monday. The Washington department is closed at an early hour, and in consequence the day has been a half holiday, and so far as real business was concerned, a *full* one.

The same was true of the London markets, judging from our advices, everything being quiet there, though securities were firmer, and money in and out of the Bank of England, easy, that institution gaining in bullion to-day on balance £31,000. This affected none of the home markets.

Gold opened at 110¾, sold down to 109¾, reacted to 110, and closed at 109¾ to 11h. The dealings were almost nominal, the tone of the market being weak, perhaps in sympathy with the decline of an eighth in Foreign Ex-hange. Prime 60 day's bills closed at 108¾ alee8¾, and sight at 109 to 109¼, commercial bills being in good supply. The carrying rates for gold were 7 gold, 6, 5, and 3 per cent. until Friday, and flat. The total Gold Exchange bank clearings were $56,019 000.

Government bonds were d ull and lower, closing on the basis of 117 for 1881s. A hundred thousand bonds of 1868—1874 were exchanged to-day into new 5s of 1881.

There were no sales of Southern State bonds. Tennessees were offered at 81¾. Virginia consols closing 50 to 51¾; old North Carolinas at 24 to 25; old South Carolinas 24 bid; new January and July 9¾ to 10¾, and plain 6s of Missouri 92¼ to 93.

A few sales of railroad bonds were recorded at good prices. Central Pacifics being 95 paid and bid; Union frists left off at 84¾ a84¾; do Land Grants, 74 to 75¾, and Income 10s at 70 to 71.

Money was lending freely all day at seven per cent. in the forenoon and six later, at which an abundance of money was offering at the close. Discounts were same as last quoted. The banks reduced the loan certificates $500,000, and they now stand at $3,130,000. The outstanding legal tender circulation is $376 391,000, an increase of $150,000.

The total transactions in stocks amounted to 37,656 shares, the leading feature being Western Union, which is the firm, communicated steadiness to the entire list.

—The following table shows the prices of railway stocks, gold, etc., at the various sessions of the New York Stock Exchange, during the day. Furnished by Gold and Stock Telegraph Company, corner of Fourth avenue and Wood street:

December 26, 1873.	10:30 A.M.	11:30 A.M.	12:30 P.M.	1:30 P.M.	2:30 P.M.	3:30 P.M.
Gold	109½	109½	109¾	109¾	110	110
Canton	52	52	52	50		
Western Union Teleg'h	72	72	72	72	72¾	72¾
Quicksil ver	39	39¼	39¼	39¼		
Pacific Mail	37¾	37¾	38	38¼	38¼	38¼
Adams Express	89	89	90	90¼		
Wells-Fargo Express				96¾		
American Express				56¼		
United States Express	63			63		
New York Central	96¾	96¾		96¾	96¾	96¾
Erie	44¾	44¾		44¾		44¾
Michigan Central				94		
Michigan Southern	74¾	74¾		74¾	74¾	74¾
Illinois Central	100			99		
Cleveland & Pittsburgh	84¾			84¾		84
Chicago & Northwestern	54¾			54¾		54
Do preferred	90¾			90¾		90¾
Rock Island	97¾			97¾		98
St. Paul	40¾			40¾		40¾
Do preferred	69			69¾		69¾
Wabash	39¾	39¾		39¾		40¼
Do preferred						
Fort Wayne	92			92		92
Ohio and Mississippi	29¼	29¼		29¼		29¼
Union Pacific	36¾	36¾		36¾	36¾	36¾
Chicago and Alton	102			102		102
Boston, Hartf'd and Erie						
Marlem	116			116¾		

—The following are the quotations for Government and State bonds received by wire from New York to-day:

GOVERNMENTS.	Morn.	Noon.	Eve.
1881, coupons	118¾	119	119
5-20s, 1862	112	113¾	113¾
5-20s, 1864	114	113¾	114
5-20s, 1865	113¾	113¾	113¾
5-20s, new	116¾	116¾	117
5-20s, 1867	117¼	117¼	117¼
5-20s, 1868	116¾	117	117¼
10-40s	110¾	110¾	110¾
10-40s, coupons	111	111¼	111¼
Currency 6s	119¾	119¾	119¾
New 5s	110	110¼	110½
STATE BONDS.			
Tennessees	81¾	81¾	81¾
Tennessee, new	81	80	80
South Carolinas, July	9¾	9	9¾
Missouri 6s	92		92¾

PRODUCE AND GENERAL MARKETS.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, FRIDAY, December 26, 1873.

REMARKS—Business was not fairly under way today, some not putting in an appearance, and those who did seemed more inclined to talk of the events of the day, Christmas, than to go into the dry details of trade.

As we have before remarked, most business men are or have been "taking stock" so that they may know just where they stand, and thus be enabled to begin the new year with their eyes open. This course, always a very commendable one, is doubly so during these trubious monitary times, and we feel assured that our Pittsburgh merchants and manufacturers will be strong enough to bridge them all safely over "settlement day." After that, we hope to announce a new departure in trade, by which business shall give place to activity in all the ramifications of trade, and matters and things one more assume their old time appearance.

As will be seen by the report below, grain is scarce and higher, particularly corn. Indeed it is asserted that one far-seeing dealer sought up all the corn in the market, and being master of the situation, will no doubt make a good thing out of it.

There is not the slightest change in bacon and provisions. Prices are about as low as they can well go, and those who can afford to do so should lay in a liberal supply as prices may go up any day.

The grocery trade is reported more active. The late advance in coffee is fully maintained. All other articles are unchanged in price.

There is considerable activity in the flour market, and all choice brands of domestic and western manufacture find ready purchasers. This is well seen by our imports the arrivals of flour are heavy.

Since the passing away of Christmas there has been a lull in the poultry and game market, but should the weather continue cold there will be a "good time" before the advent of the new year.

The followingare table shows the amount of the leading articles named for the past twenty-four hours:

Flour, bbls	850	Apples, bbls	183
Corn, sacks	1,283	Wheat, do	170
Barley, sacks	170	Oats, sacks	200
Butter, pkgs	39	Bacon, tcs	10
Potatoes, bushels	1,650		

Below will be found the wholesale rates of the market, unless otherwise noted:

APPLES—Receipts 186 bbls. There is a continued fair demand at $1 50@2 00 per bushel for common to medium, and $3 00@3 50 for choice.

APPLE BUTTER—Prices are steady with a moderately active demand. Sales at 5@6½c per gallon.

ASHES—No change in prices, the nominal rates being as follows: Soda Ash, common, 3½@4c; Refined, 5c; Potash, 9c; Bark Ash, 7c; Oswego, 9c; Black Lead, 5c.

ALES—The market is firm, with a fair demand. The card prices are as follows: X $ ₰ bbl; XX, $9; India ale $10 ₰ bbl; Bass' English ale, in glue kind of 22 gals, $22 76@3 24; bbls, 41 gals, $16 25@34 meds, 68 gals, $32 50@65; 4; in cases, bottles, $2 75; Wm. Youngers' Imita pale ale in 5 doz bottles, $3 ₰ doz; Robt. Youngers of sparkling ale $3 ₰ doz; Guinness stouts, bottled by E. & J. Burke, $3 ₰ doz; Cantrell & Cochrane's ginger ale $2 25 ₰ doz; Caswells, Huxard & Co's ginger ale $1 75 ₰ doz.

BEANS—There is a fair demand, though prices are not higher. We quote fair to choice at $2@2 25 ₰ bushel.

BORAX—Refined 25c ₰ lb.

BANNER BAKING POWDER—Market steady: sales per doz ¼ lb cans, $1.60; ½ lb do $3 00; 1 lb do $5 50; 5 lb cans, $27 00 per dozen.

BROOM CORN—Market quiet with sales red and red tops at 5¾@6¾; fair to good green 7½@8¾c. Hurl 9¾@10c per lb.

BUTTER—Receipts for the past twenty-four hours 39 packages. The supply of choice table rather falls short of the demand. Common is in good supply and dull sale, while prime choice brings the highest market rates. We quote at 30@32c for prime to choice and 16@27c for common to fair.

BACON AND PROVISIONS—Receipts 10 tierces. The market is unchanged in every particular. Following are the ruling rates of the market: extra sugar cured, 9¾c; breakfast bacon, sugar cured, 11¾c; dried beef, extra sugar cured, 11¾c; bacon shoulders, 8½c; rib sides, 9¾c; clear sides, 9½c; clear sides 10c; mess pork $17 00 per bbl; lard, prime leaf in tierces, 9¼c per lb; country do half bbls, 10c; prime leaf in buckets, 10¾c; refined for summer use in tierces, 9¾c; do in half bbls, 10c; do in buckets, 10¾c; refined in 3 lb pails, 12½c; do in 5 lb caddies, 11½c; do in 3 lb pails, 13c; in 5 lb pails, 12½c; hams sausage, 10c.

CARBON OIL—We are reported sales at works, job at 11@11½ ₰ gallon, with the usual advance for small lots.

CRANBERRIES—The current rates are $10 to $13 per bbl; $3 50 to $4 per box.

CONCENTRATED LYE—Sales at $7 50@8 per case of four dozen packages.

CORN MEAL—Sales at $30 ₰ ton for unbolted meal, and in a small way at $1 60 ₰ cwt., from store.

CRACKERS—We quote: Lemon biscuit 11½c; ginger snaps 12½c; oyster crackers, Boston crackers 7c; sugar crackers 9½c; butter crackers 7c; water do 7½c ₰ lb.

CEMENT—Bresen's Phœnix $2 00@2 10; Louisville $2 25@2 50; Rosedale $1 00@4 50; white lime $2 00; calcined plaster $3 00; land plaster $3 00@3 50.

CHEESE—The market is only moderately active. The stocks on hand are ample, and sales are made at the following figures: Good Ohio Dairy 12½@13c; prime Ohio Factory, September make, 14½@15c for the trade, and 15@15½c in a jobbing way; Young America 18c; Nutmeg 13c; prime to choice Ohio Sweitzer 16@18c.

DRESSED HOGS—Sales at 5¾@6¼c ₰ lb.

DRIED FRUIT—Sales: bright new crop apples at 5@6c. Peaches 10@12c for prime halves.

EGGS—Market active, but prices no higher. Sales strictly fresh at 30c per doz, and pickled at 18@25c.

FLOUR—Receipts 850 bbls. The market is quiet and unchanged. We quote as follows:

State amber wheat	$5 25@5 50
State red wheat	5 00@5 25
Fancy St. Louis	9 25@9 50
Fancy Kentucky white wheat	8 50
Good Ohio red wheat	7 50
Wisconsin Spring wheats	7 25
Minnesota Spring wheats	7 75
Rye flour	5 25

FISH—No. 1 extra mess mackeral $35; No. 1 mess do, $33; extra No. 1 shore mackrel, $28; No. 1 shore mackrel, $26; extra No. 1 bay mackerel, $19; No. 1 bay mackerel, $17; extra No. 2 shore mackrel, $15; No. 2 shore mackrel, $13 large No. 3 mackrel, $12 50; No. 3 mackrel, $10; split Labrador herring $8 to $9; white fish, $7 50@8 00 lake trout, $7 50; large Georges codfish $7@7 50 ₰ 100; medium Georges codfish, $6 50 ₰ 100; red herring, scale 500 ₰ box; No. 1 do ₰ box.

FEATHERS—No. 1 at 73@80c ₰ lb; No. 2 C, 49@73c as to quality and quantity.

GROCERIES—The market is reported more active, country dealers having taken advantage of the holiday season and fine state of the roads to "come and see" our merchants, and becoming acquainted with prices and terms, are sure to purchase. We quote as follows:

Coffee—Green Rio coffee, choice, 31c; strictly prime 29@29½c; prime 28½c; good 28c; fair 26½c; green Java 35@36c ₰ lb; roasted Rio in papers, 34c; in bulk 33½c; Java in papers, 40c.

Teas—Young Hyson Good 1 10 ₰ lb; Gunpowder 1 25; Imperial 90c@1 00 ₰ lb; Japan 55c@1 00 ₰ lb; Oolong 85c@1 00 ₰ lb; fancy $1 00 ₰ lb; Souchong 85c@1 00 ₰ lb.

Sugar—Standard Ex C 10½c; Standard B 10½c; standard A 10¾c; standard hards 11¼c.

Molasses—Choice New Orleans 75c; prime 68@70c; Amber 60@65c; lower grades 35@40c, as to quality.

Rice—Choice Carolina 8¾c; Patna 8c; Rangoon 7¾c.

GAME—Since Christmas the demand has slackened some what. There is still a fair stock on hand, and as the weather is favorable for "shooting" it prices are firm at quotations. We quote: Squirrels—$1 75 @2 00 ₰ dozen. Rabbits—$1 25@1 00 ₰ dozen. Venison—Saddles ₰ lb 25c, hams do 20c, deer from 75 to 125. Quail—$1 50 ₰ dozen. Pheasants—$3 50@4 00 ₰ dozen. Prairie Chickens—$3 50@4 00 ₰ dozen. Wild Turkeys—$1 50@3 00 each. Turkeys—15@16c ₰ lb. Chicks 8@—12½@13c ₰ lb.

GRAIN—As above noted there has been a sharp advance in corn. The stocks on hand are light, not being up to the demand. We give the following as the ruling figures of the market: Wheat—Red winter, $1 55@1 60, and $1 65@1 70, for amber and white. Oats—Prime white, 50@53c, and mixed, 48@49c. Corn—Prime yellow, shelled, 70@75c; mixed, 68@70c; old car, 70@72c; and 1 new from 65@70c. Rye is held at 85@90c.

HOMINY—We are reported sales at $1 50@5 00 per bbl.

HAY—Market well stocked with loose in country wagons, which is selling at from $19 to $29 per ton Straw is in demand at $15 per ton

ONIONS—Are in good supply with sales in a regular way $4 00 to $5 50 per bbl.

PICKLES—Medium, 30s, $10; medium half 30s, $5 50; half bbls Boston mixed, $8 00; pints, plain or mixed, per dozen, $1 50; quarts, plain or mixed, $2 50; half gallons, plain, $ 75; pints, plain, $5 50; Hexagon ass ons, mixed, $10; English chow chow, pints, $4 50; English chow chow, quarts, $6 00; English mixed pickles, pints, $3 00; English mixed pickles, quarts, $6 00; English cauliflower, pints, $3 00; English cauliflower, quarts, $6 00; English pimalli, pints, $3 50; English picalli, quarts, $6 00; English white onions, pints, $4 50; English white onions, quarts, $7 50; English gherkins, pints, $3 75; English gherkins, quarts, $6 50; English Mofussali, pickles, pints, $4 50.

POTATOES—The market fully supplied and sales made at $1 15@1 25 for prime; mixed 90@95 ₰ bush. *Sweets*—Baltimore $4 50@5 50 ₰ bushel; Jerseys $6 25@6 75.

SEEDS—There is nothing doing in timothy, but there is some inquiry for clover. Flax seed is now quoted at $1 85@1 90 ₰ bushel.

WHISKY—Highwines are higher, with sales at $1 08@1 09 per gallon.

PITTSBURGH OIL TRADE.

OFFICE OF THE DAILY COMMERCIAL, SATURDAY, December 27, 1873.

REMARKS—The oil market opened this week devoid of animation, dealers appearing not to have recovered from the previous day's jubilee. The result was trade was dull and sales were restricted; prices, however, are no lower. Below will be found all the information we could ascertain:

CRUDE.

The market was a quiet one. We heard of no transactions. The asking rates were: Union lines $1 09@1 05; United lines 92@95c. No sales were reported.

REFINED.

The market was quiet, the asking rates at the works, were 11a11½c per gallon. Philadelphia held at 13½c; January 13¼a13½c; February 13¾c; March 13¾a14c; April 14¼a14½c per gallon.

New York market weak; January 13¾a13¾c.

OIL BARRELS.

The market firm, city, $1 00; country $1.75a1.80.

[By Western Union Telegraph Line.]

PETROLEUM CENTRE, December 26.—Market very quiet at 9½ ₰ bbl.

TIDIOUTE, December 26.—Market unchanged; quiet at 9¾@10c.

TITUSVILLE, December 26.—Nothing doing; no quotations.

OIL CITY, December 26.—No market here; can't quote.

PARKER'S LANDING December 26.—Market dull at 9c.

PHILADELPHIA, December 26.—Market quiet; S. W. 13¾c; crude 4½c; cases 19c; sales nominal. Futures; January, 13¾a13¾c; February, 13¾c; March, 13¾a14c, and April 14¾a14½c.

NEW YORK, December 26.—Market closing 24.—Market rather weak and quiet; crude, bulk, at 15¾c. Sales 1,000 bbls each week of January at 15¾c. Refined 13¾a15¾c. Cases 18¾a19¾c. Naphtha 9¾c. Philadelphia dull and unsettled.

[By Pacific and Atlantic Line.]

PARKERS December 26.—Market quiet and easier with more sellers than buyers, at 87¾c@$1 00, according to pipe line.

PHILADELPHIA, December 26.—Refined 13¾a13¾c; crude 4¾c in bulk; bbls 9½c; January 13¾c; February 13¾a13¾c; March 13¾a14c; April 14¾a14½c.

TITUSVILLE, December 26.—Market quiet at $1 15 at 17.

TIDIOUTE, December 26.—Market firm and quiet at 90c.

OIL CITY, December 26.—Market quiet and nothing doing; can't quote.

WEEKLY REVIEW OF THE PIG IRON AND BLOOM MARKET.

OFFICE OF THE DAILY COMMERCIAL, SATURDAY, December 27, 1873.

The tone of the market for pig metal has improved very much during the past week, but the difference between the views of sellers and buyers has caused the transactions to be still small as compared with the report of two weeks ago.

We are able to report several sales at $30 for four months, amounting in the aggregate to near 2,000 tons; and we learn of sev ral offers to buy at that price which were declined by the owners. It is proper to say that these offers were for fancy brands, which are now held at $31 and $32 for four months.

We are reported the following sales:

BITUMINOUS COAL SMELTER FROM S. S. ORE.

1,500 tons Grey Forge.....$30 00—4 mos
600 tons Grey Forge.....29 00—4 mos
300 tons Grey Forge.....29 00—4 mos
575 tons Silvery.....25 00—cash
150 tons Grey Forge.....30 00—4 mos
150 tons White and Mottled.....26 00—4 mos
100 tons Silvery.....27 00—4 mos
100 tons Grey Forge.....28 00—4 mos
100 tons Grey Forge.....25 00—cash
100 tons Mottled.....27 00—4 mos
50 tons Mottled.....26 00—4 mos
20 tons No. 2 Foundry.....30 00—4 mos

CONNELLSVILLE COKE.

150 tons Grey Forge.....28 00—4 mos

ANTHRACITE.

150 tons Grey Forge.....$29 00—4 mos
150 tons White.....26 00—4 mos
150 tons Grey Forge.....25 00—4 mos

SALES AT FURNACE.

850 tons Grey Forge, chickies, at fur-
nace.....$28 00—cash
150 tons Foundry, chickies, at furnace, 33 00—cash

IRON MARKETS.

December 24.—Scotch Pig is very quiet, prices are nominal, and there are no new features of interest to note; buyers continue to purchase to meet their limited wants; trade in large parcels is suspended for the present. The latest quotations from Glasgow are 75s 10d, and Langloan, 76s for Langloan; 500 tons Eglinton, and 200 do. Glengarnock just to hand was sold previous to arrival. American Pig is steady, and prices tend upward; there has been some further sales of Lehigh brands, but particulars are withheld; we understand $25 is freely offered for No. 1 Allentown, but refused, while some of the companies are asking $27 for No. 1; 300 tons No. 1 Lehigh sold on private terms. Rails are quiet, and without the element of note. $40 is the quotation of Old T, while D H, are not offered. Scrap moves slowly. Rolled Bar &c., from store is rather easier; manufacturers being under the idea that for some time past, though there has been no advance.—*Shipping List.*

CLEVELAND.

December 25.—The mills report an improved demand within ten days and a stiffening in prices, a movement in which nails seem to share, although we shade our quotations 5c to bring them to the ruling rates. Extra lots have been placed even within these figures but on excellent terms. Spikes are advanced 10c.

The market continues firm and some metal is changing hands at the prices quoted, holders no longer seeming willing to grant concessions.

LAKE SUPERIOR CHARCOAL FOR CAR WHEELS AND MALLEABLE USE.

No. 1	$47 00—4 mos
No. 2	47 00—4 mos
No. 3	50 00—4 mos
No. 4	53 00—4 mos
No. 5	55 00—4 mos

COLD BLAST CHARCOAL.

ANTHRACITE.

No. 1 Onondaga	$29 00—4 mos

BITUMINOUS IRON FROM ALL LAKE SUPERIOR ORE.

No. 1 Fundry, acding to brand.	$37 00—4 mos
No. 2 "	33 00—4 mos
Grey Forge	30 00—4 mos

BLACKBAND IRON FROM WAREHOUSE.

SCOTCH.

No. 1 Eglintoun	$42 00—4 mos
No. 1 Ayersome	40 00—4 mos

AMERICAN.

No. 1 Massillon	@40 00—4 mos
No. 1 Volcano	@40 00—4 mos

IRON ORES.

Lake Superior specular..... ½ cash,
Forsythe..... 7 50 bal. 4 mos.

The above quotations are for new mines, old are all sold up.—*Commercial Review.*

PITTSBURGH LIVE STOCK MARKET.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, FRIDAY, December 26, 1873.

Cattle.

The receipts of cattle this week have been light, both of through stock and for the New York and Philadelphia markets, and of cattle intended for sale at this point. For quality the arrivals were not so good as those of last week, there being fewer of choice or holiday stock on sale. The attendance of buyers not good, no doubt many of them re ain ing away to spend their Christmas at home. Advices from the East were unfavorable, and trade ruled slow at the first of the week, but the rates proving light; the feeling toward the close was better. Most of the stock offered changed hands, and at this writing the cattle are pretty well shipped out. On the whole, the market this week was a small affair, and the yards devoid of their usual bustle and activity. Following are the prices the different grades changed hands at:

PRICES.	
Extra 1,400 to 1,500 lbs steers	$6 00 to 6 25
Extra 1,300 lbs	5 50 to 5 75
Prime 1,200 lbs	5 00 to 5 25
Fair 1,100 lbs	4 50 to 4 75
Fair 1,000 lbs	4 00 to 4 25
Common	3 50 to 3 75
Bulls	2 50 to 3 50

Hogs.

The run of hogs this week light and in quality are not so good as arrivals have been for the past two weeks. Trade opened with prices about the same as the close of the proceeding week viz: $5 30 for choice tops. On Monday and Tuesday the runs came light, in fact hardly enough to meet the current demand and holders held stock from them to 10 ₰ cents higher which they succeed in getting. On Wednesday trade was slow but prices higher, $5 65 being realized for choice tops. On Christmas morning but few hogs in the pens and very few buyers; however holders felt easy in consequence of obtaining higher figures and held hogs from $5 50 to $5 70, although nothing sold higher than $5 65. To-day not much is doing, and but little stock in the pens. All the engineers on the Fort Wayne and Chicago Railway are on a strike for higher wages, and there is considerable stock on the road which may be some time getting here, and with the prospect of high arrivals, higher prices will rule unless the matter is soon compromised. Following are the rates current:

PRICES.	
Extra Philadelphia	$5 50 to $5 60;
prime Philadelphia	$5 45 to $5 40;
prime Yorkers	$5 00 to $5 15.

Sheep.

The arrivals of sheep light. The market slow and not much doing. Very little change in prices since our last report.

PRICES.	
Extra	$5 25; prime $4 90 to $5 00; good $4 75.

WOOL MARKET.

NEW YORK.

December 26.—The market is still quiet. Buyers have been very scarce, but at the same time holders show no disposition to force sales, believing that the demand will be more active after the holidays are over than it has been at any time during the past six weeks. The sales comprise 166 bales and bags Mexican at 34@36c; 85,000 lbs fine unwashed Ohio at 37½c; 10,000 lbs, white Colorado 24c; 4,000 black do 19c; 30,000 lbs new Texas 19@20c; 20 bales Oregon combing 46c; 2,500 lbs short X pulled 38@40c; 52 bales pall California, 28@30c; 5,000 lbs spring do 30@33½c.—*Shipping List.*

Oswego Market.

OSWEGO, December 26.—Wheat dull; prime white Canada $1 80; No. 1 Milwaukee $1 67. Corn quiet at 75c. Barley quiet and unchanged.

Nashville Market.

NASHVILLE, December 26.—Cotton, flour, grain and provisions quiet and unchanged. Whisky firm at 96c.

New York Finance and Trade.

Gold Closed at 110¾.

NEW YORK, December 26, 1873.

MONEY

easy at 6a7; prime discounts 8a10.

STERLING

firm; closed at 108¾ for sixty days and 108¾a109¼ for sight. Dry Goods imports for week $826,511. Customs receipts $184,000. Treasury disbursements $285,000.

GOLD

ranged at 109¾a110¾, closed at 110¾. Carrying rates 5a7 and flat for borrowing. Clearings $42 000,000. Governments strong in late dealings, closed at best prices of the day. State bonds quiet and nominal.

GOVERNMENTS.

U. S. coupons, 1881	119	5-20's, '67	117¾
5-20's, '62	113¾	5-20's, '68	117¼
5-20's, '64	114	New 5's	111¾
5-20's, '65	114¾	10-40 's	111¼
5-20's, '65, new	116¾	Currency 6's	123½

STATE BONDS.

Missouri	92½	Virginia, old	36
Tennessee, old	80¾	North Carolina, old	23
Tennessee, new	80¾	North Carolina, new	14
Virginia, new	49	Bankers' dis	8¾

Stocks dull and heavy, and in early part of the day declined ¾a¾, on general list. Panama and Lackawanna were exceptions, and the former advanced ¾; latter 1¾. In the afternoon Pacific Mail advanced 1¾ and closed at highest point for the day. St. Paul preferred advanced ¾. Other recoveries ¼a¾. Market closed firm. Total sales for day, 74,000, of which 16,700 were Western Union, 13,300 Pacific Mail, 10,000 St. Paul, 4,600 Wabash, 3,000 New York Central, 60 St. Paul preferred, 61 Wabash preferred, 49¾ Do preferred, 34¾ Fort Wayne, 18 Terre Haute, 34 Do preferred, 32 Chicago & Alton, 100 Do preferred, 96 Chicago & Rock Island, 3 Ohio & Mississippi, 30 Erie, 74 Do preferred, 71 Panama, 97¾ Illinois Central, 99 Union Pacific, 39¾ Central Pacific, 95¾ Hartford & Erie, 3 Del. Lack., 103¾

MARKETS BY TELEGRAPH.

Chicago Market.

CHICAGO, December 26, 1873.

FLOUR—Quiet; super $5 25@5 90.

GRAIN—Wheat quiet and weak; No 1 spring $1 19; No 2, $1 13¾; spot, $1 14¾ seller January, $1 17¾a1 17¾ seller February; No 3 do $1 08a1 10. Corn dull and declined; No 2 mixed 52¾c cash, 53¼c seller January; rejected 46c. Oats dull and lower; No 2, 38c cash, 38¾c seller January, 39¼c seller February. Rye steady with a moderate demand; No 2, 75c. Barley—Demand fair and market firm; fall No 2, $1 36; No 3, $1 03¾a1 08.

SEEDS—Quiet and unchanged.

DRESSED HOGS—Steady at $5 95.

PROVISIONS—Pork dull and easier at $13 75. Bulk meats firm; nothing doing; shoulders 5¾c; short rib middles 6¾a6¾c. Green meats steady; hams 10c, average 8¾c; short rib 6¼c.

WHISKY—Quiet, weak and lower at 94c.

New York Market.

NEW YORK, December 26.—Cotton Exchange closed. Flour quiet; superfine and State $5 35a6 00; good to choice $6 00a7 20; white wheat extra, $7 20a8 00. Whisky lower at 97¾c. Wheat dull and lower; Iowa spring $1 03a1 07; No 2 spring $1 56a1 57; No 1 Minnesota $1 61¾. Rye and barley quiet. Barley firmer at $1 44 Corn quiet; western mixed in store 58a59c; western mixed and yellow afloat 62¾a64¾c. Oats steady and lower at 60a63c; white western afloat 57a59c. Hay, hops, coffee, sugar, molasses and rice unchanged. Petroleum quiet. Eggs steady at 24a25c. Turpentine quiet at 44c. Pork at $16 25. Beef and cut meats unchanged. Middles dull. Lard firmer; prime steam 8½c; January 8¾c; February 8¾c; March 9a9 3-16c. Butter and cheese steady.

New York Live Stock Market.

NEW YORK, December 26.—Beeves—Prices offerings 881, making 2,350 for four days against 3 230 same time last week. Quality mixed ranging from very poor to strictly prime. Market fluctuated, firm and active at sustained prices of 7¾a9¾c for Texans, and 8¾a11¾c for natives.

Sheep and Lambs—Arrivals yesterday and to-day 4,740, making 8,500 for four days against 14,660 same time last week. Demand good and market fair at 4¾a6¾c for common to good lots, with no choice or fancy lots shown.

Swine—Receipts yesterday and to-day 6,739, making 18,200 for four day, against 20,700 same time last week. Market inactive at 5¾ for fair to five 5¾a5¾c for city dressed and 6¼a6¾c for dressed western.

New Orleans Market.

NEW ORLEANS, December 26.—Flour scarce; good extra and choice family, $6 50@7 50; double extra $7 00; family $7 50@9 00. Corn quiet; white 75c@$1 00. Oats 80@85c. Bran 90c. Hay quiet; prime $20; choice $23. Pork dull at $15 25. Dry salt meats steadyat 6¾a8¾c. Bacon—new shoulders, clear rib, scarce 9½; clear 10¼. Lard is weak; dull at 10c; new 13¾c. Lard firm; tierce 9¾c; keg 10¾c. Whisky firm; demand inferior, held at 93¾c; common 84c; fair to fully fair 87a89c; prime to choice 93a94c. Molasses active and firmer; common 40c; fair 50c; prime to choice 60c; strictly prime 65c; prime fermenting 54a56c. Whisky—No Cincinnati here; Louisville scarce at 95c; ordinary western 92¾c. Coffee firm; ordinary to prime 21¾ a27c.

Buffalo Live Stock Market.

BUFFALO, December 26.—Cattle—Receipts, only 50 head; total for the week 1,125. Market dull, and yards bare of stock, save a few odds and ends.

Sheep and Lambs—Receipts, including reported arrivals, 600 head; total for the week 10,000. Market closed firm; sales 1,100 head Michigan sheep, 80 and 114 lbs, $4 87½a5 40; 760 head Ohio sheep, 78 a91 lbs, at $4 12½a5 50.

Hogs—Receipts, including reported arrivals, 1,500 head; total for the week 20,000. Market active; 26,300 same time last week. Market slow at $4 90a5 25; Yorkers $5 30a5 40 for heavy hogs.

Baltimore Market.

BALTIMORE, December 26.—Flour quiet and steady. Wheat dull; choice white $1 55; fair to prime $1 50a1 80; choice amber $1 85; amber $1 65a1 70. Corn firm; white 53c; mixed western 50a 55c; white 53c. Rye 85a86c. Provisions weaker with $15 50 bulk shoulders 6¾c; sides 7¾a8¼c; clear 9¼c. Whisky 94c. Coffee firm. Sugar firmer but unchanged. Coffee unchanged. Whisky quiet at $1 00.

Cincinnati Market.

CINCINNATI, December 26.—Flour steady at 25¾c. Flour and barley quiet and unchanged. Corn—demand fair and market firm; sales 5,000 bushels at 56c; ears unchanged. Provisions dull, little doing. Pork quiet at 15c. Lard quiet and steady. Bulk meats quiet; shoulders 5¾c; sides 7a7¼c. Bacon very scarce: shoulders 7½c; sides 8¾c, clear ribs 9¾c; clear 9¾c. Hams 9a9¾c. Butter firmer but unchanged. Coffee unchanged. Whisky quiet at $1 00.

Albany Live Stock Market.

ALBANY, December 26.—Receipts of cattle 175 car loads, or 1,088 less than last week. Disinclination to buy and advance of one week's prices, which buyers decline to pay. Sales at 4a7¾c. Receipts sheep 11 car loads; sales at 4a6¾c. Receipts of hogs, 6 car loads. Prices of sheep and lambs 2,300 or 5,000 short of those last week. Sheep ¼c higher; common to fair 4¾a5¾c; fair to prime 5¾a6¾c; Lambs—common to fair 5¾a6c; fair to good 6a7¾c.

Philadelphia Wool Market.

PHILADELPHIA, December 26.—Wool steady and firm; Ohio, Pennsylvania and West Virginia double extra and above 50c; extra 48a50c; medium 54a55c; coarse 50a52c. New York, Michigan, Indiana and Western fine delaine; medium 52a54c; coarse braids. Combing washed 60a62c; combing unwashed 46a49c; Canada combing 60a65c; fine unwashed 34a 36c; coarse and medium 32a35c; fine tub washed 52a55c; No 1 and superfine pulled 42a45c.

New York Dry Goods Market.

NEW YORK, December 26.—Business very dull today, owing to holidays. Jobbers are busily engaged in taking account of stock. Manufacturers of best of accommodation and has careful and attentive offerings closely sold up. Russell, on the main office, will see that passengers have the best of attention.

As will be seen by reference to our advertising columns, the firm of Jenkins, Jarden & Co., retain C. L. Brennan, will hereafter make regular weekly trips, between Cincinnati and Pittsburgh. Leaving here every Wednesday, and Cincinnati every Saturday. Passengers and shippers can make arrangements accordingly.

The New Orleans "Times" says: The weather of yesterday, like that of Friday, was fine and pleasant. Business on the levee for the closing day of the week was more animated than we have noticed for some time, like many previous days of the week, and that yesterday was the busiest day that we have noticed so far this season.

All the coal consumed at Nashville, Gallatin and Clarksville is brought down the Cumberland on coalboats. The lumber, coal, salt and oil business on the Upper Cumberland is very large, and it is said that the tonnage now employed in that stream is three times greater than was required to do the work in 1870. The vessels chiefly employed are barges and scows.

The Great Republic discharged at Vicksburg a portion of the cargo of the Wm. Nelson. When the instructions of Captain Neagre, agent of the Underwriters, were to collect forty per cent. on the invoice cost of sugar, in case consignees decline to receive freight and pay assessment, it will be shipped to New Orleans, and there sold for account of the Underwriters.

The brig sunk by the Belle Lee at New Orleans, has been raised, and the cargo saved in an almost perfect condition. The cotton with which she was loaded was compress ed, and injured only slightly by contact with the water. Both the brig that was sunk, and the one discharged by the cotton, will probably have to go to the dock, and it is thought possible that the Belle Lee will also have to lose a trip to undergo necessary repairs.

HISTORY of The Steamer Continents: The Continental was built at Pittsburg, March, 1861. Measurement tonnage, 848; length on deck, 252 feet; length on keel, 232 feet; breadth, 41 feet; depth, 8 feet; hold, 8 feet; four boilers, 30 feet long, 44 inches diameter; cylinders, 9 feet stroke, 26 inches diameter; water-wheel, 24 feet diameter, 14 feet buckets. She was built for Capt. Wm. F. Hutchinson, and cost $55,000; value in 1863, 70,000; 1865, $90,000; 1868, $25,000; 1871, $2,000; December, 1873, unincumbered and docked, and reported The Continental probably cleared for her owners $500,000 up to 1868.

WEDNESDAY'S St. Louis "Republican

CITY MATTERS.

The Forbes Schools.

A pleasant entertainment took place at the Ann street school building of the Forbes district, Sixth ward, on Wednesday, on the occasion of the closing of the schools for the year. Exercises in reading, recitations and singing were participated in by pupils from all the different rooms, and reflected credit upon them. During the past term 861, the highest average 754, the highest percentage 93, and the largest number of scholars not absent any month 389.

Collectors for "The Pittsburgh Association for the Relief of the Poor."

The committee of gentlemen appointed and authorized by this Association, to make collections to aid in the work of giving relief to the poor, held a meeting December 24th, and will proceed at once to canvass the city. We feel sure that our citizens, with the daily evidence before them of want among the poor, will cordially respond to these gentlemen, who so kindly have pressing business cares to assume this laborious task.

MRS. LEVI WADE, Secretary.

City Property Committee.

The Committee on City Property met last evening at the Clerk's office. The following bills were audited and ordered to be paid: B. J. Bradley, amount due on construction of partitions in Central Station House, $125; B. J. Bradley, for fitting up Captain's office in Wilkins' Hall, $89 76; Frank Kohne, plumbing at Fourteenth ward station house, $34 70; *Herald* Printing Company, advertising "room to let," $4 00.

The bill of B. J. Bradley for balance due on extra work in building Central Station House, $72, was laid over.

Handsome Printing.

We are indebted to Mr. Lane for a copy of the programme of exercises arranged for the "service of the First English Evangelical Lutheran Church Sunday-School, Pittsburgh, for Christmas Eve, 1873." The programme was gotten up in the best style of the printing art, by the Messrs Johnston, and is creditable alike to the printers and to the school for whose use it was designed. The front cover is beautifully illuminated, while the back contains a very neat engraving of the famous picture of "Christmas Eve in Luther's Home," to which incidental reference was made in our editorial columns on Thursday.

For the Benefit of the Poor.

Citizens of the lower part of Allegheny, Manchester, have been doing good work for the poor for several weeks past, but find it necessary to get aid from the general public to keep up their contributions. To this end a lecture has been arranged to take place on Sunday evening at St. Andrew's church in the neighborhood mentioned. Rev. O. O'Brien kindly volunteered his services, and on the occasion named will discourse upon the cause of the Present Aspect of Christianity. The price of tickets is but twenty-five cents, and aside from the ability of the lecturer and the interest of his subject, there should be a crowded audience.

The New Controller.

The Finance Committee held a meeting yesterday, when the bond of the new Controller, Mr. Snodgrass—for $10,000—was presented and approved. Mr. Snodgrass, we are pleased to say, expresses a determination to look closely to all the details of the office, and to see that there is a strict compliance with the law in all the departments. The Finance Committee did no other business of importance.

Last evening Mr. Snodgrass and Ex-Controller McGowan were busy arranging for transfers of appropriations to be presented for consideration of Councils on Monday, to bridge over the expenditures until the new appropriations are made.

Still Another Reduction in Railroad Fares.

The battle between the two great railroad corporations, to secure passenger travel to and from the East, still continues. The latest shot comes from the Pittsburgh, Washington and Baltimore Railroad Company, in the shape of an announcement, to be found in another part of this morning's COMMERCIAL, that the rates of fare have been again reduced. Ticks e can now be had at the following rates: To New York, ten dollars; to Philadelphia, seven dollars; to Washington city and Baltimore, five dollars. By the "Connellsville route" some seventy-five miles is saved, and the road is gaining an enviable reputation for safety, comfort and speed.

The public will await with interest the development of the next movement of the Pennsylvania Railroad.

PUBLIC AMUSEMENTS.

Pittsburgh Opera House.

"Lost at Sea" will be repeated at the matinee this afternoon and at the evening performance. This beautiful play grows in popularity, and would run many weeks if other plans of the management did not interfere. All should embrace this opportunity to witness one of the sensations of this season at the Opera House.

Academy of Music.

The great sensational play of "Marked for Life" will have but two more performances here—at the matinee this afternoon, and this evening. It is full of startling and exciting situations, and to the large class who enjoy that sort of thing furnishes much enjoyment.

Next Monday the people of Pittsburgh are to witness a juvenile sensation, of the simple, shrewd, plucky, honest "Fritz," as unsprpassable as the character itself is unique—the artistic capabilities of the one calling on into the dramatic opportunities of the other as naturally and felicitously as in "Home, Sweet Home," the music of Bishop assimilated with the words of Howard Payne. Emmett and Fritz were made for and belong to each other—resembling, in this sense, dear old Charley Lamb's two single gentlemen rolled into one. That they will be greeted by immense audiences during the entire period of their stay among us at the Academy of Music, no one can doubt. The sale of seats commenced yesterday, and was very successful. It will continue to-day.

Trimble's Varieties.

The benefit of Mr. E. D. Davies, the great ventriloquist, took place last night, the house being packed like a box of sardines. This is not to be wondered at, considering the attractiveness of the programme. Mr. Davies stands confessedly at the head of the whole list of professors of the ventriloquial art, overtopping them all by a full head and shoulders. Last night he fairly outdid himself, his astonishing vocal surprises eliciting almost continuous rounds of applause from the beginning to end. The variety olio was also rendered with marked vigor, dash, sprightliness and effec', reflecting credit alike upon the various artists and on the efficient stage-manager. The dialect songs of Mr. Harry Fulton, in particular, were admirably given and warmly applauded. There are grand bills for the matinee and evening performances of to-day.

[Library Hall.—The Drummer Boy.

The beautiful allegory, "The Drummer Boy," has met with great success thus far this week. The audiences have grown in size nightly, that of Christmas filling every seat and overflowing into aisles and lobbies. The house was full last evening, and the performance most capital. In justice to the ladies and gentlemen who have given their services, the name of each should be mentioned, but space will not permit. The allegory will be repeated but twice more—at the matinee this afternoon and again this evening. A great feature of this afternoon's performances will be the presence of the children from the Soldiers' Orphan School in Allegheny City. The management have kindly set apart a portion of the house for their accommodation; and the little folk will no doubt treasure the remembrance of this kindness for years to come.

English Opera.

The sale of reserved seats for the short season of English opera, at Library Hall, next week, by the Kellogg troupe, commenced at Hale's music store, 103 Smithfield street, yesterday morning, and was largely attended. The sale will be continued to-day.

A HAPPY OCCASION.

Presentations at Hiland Schools.

One of the most successful and agreeable "surprise presentations" that ever occurred, came off Tuesday last, in the Hiland Schools, East Liberty. It is not an easy matter to keep an intended presentation quiet among a large school, but in this instance there was no foreshadowing of the happy design. Tuesday afternoon, the teachers managed to have Prof. George P. Fulton, the accomplished principal, take the pupils into the hall, there they had singing by the children, with music on the organ by Miss Christy. Miss Black then stepped upon the stage, and uncovered a splendid China tea set, which was presented to the principal as a gift from the children, in a very neat little speech by Master Willie Rogers, of room No. 7. This ceremony was no sooner ended, than Miss Emma Bridge, of room No. 9 placed in Mr. Fulton's hand an elegant and costly gold-headed cane, as a "present from the teachers, and a token of their love and esteem." Subsequently, Master George Ewing, of room No. 11, in a very graceful manner, presented Mr. Fulton with an ivory and gold mounted pencil, "as a memento of the good feeling of himself and class-mates." Of course these tokens of love and regard were very gratifying to Mr. Fulton, as they conveyed to him, in language more eloquent than words, evidence of the appreciation in which he is held as teacher, companion and friend. The teachers, had they also made an ostentatious ceremony, might have embraced the opportunity afforded on the previous day, when the presentation would have been witnessed by a hundred visitors; but, with a delicacy of feeling and an unobtrusiveness which bespeak their own modesty and refinement, they quietly awaited the appointed time and manner—and the gifts for this reason, are all the more acceptable to the donor.

The love and generosity of the children were manifested in many other instances of a like nature, in the class-rooms, to their respective teachers; and the most cordial and happy relations subsist in every department. The New Year opens most auspiciously upon the Hiland Schools, and augurs prosperity for the future.

THE CITY ENGINEER.

FURTHER INVESTIGATION,

Mr. Dempster Cross-Examined.

He Explains the Independent Corps—Never Made any Money Out of It—The Committee Acquit the Engineer and Decide to Make Certain Recommendations.

The committee having in charge the matter of investigating certain charges preferred by Councilman Kirk against City Engineer Dempster met yesterday afternoon, and after a long sitting completed their labors. Mr. Evan Jones occupied the chair. Mr. Kirk was present and represented by Jacob F. Slagle, Esq.

After the meeting had been called to order the Chairman called Mr. DeCamp, one of the clerks in the Mayor's office, as a witness.

Mr. Slagle inquired if he was to be allowed to conduct the investigation.

Mr. E. P. Jones said he understood Mr. Kirk was to produce all the witnesses he required to substantiate his charges, and that the committee were anxious to give the matter a thorough investigation.

Mr. Lloyd said the committee not only desired a full investigation, but would aid Mr. Kirk in his efforts to bring out the whole truth.

Mr. Slagle made a somewhat detailed explanation, and then said that as Mr. Dempster had already made a statement under oath he would now proceed to the cross-examination of that gentleman.

MR. DEMPSTER CROSS-EXAMINED,

and testified that he assumed the duties of the position in May, 1872, and had been employed in the office previous to that time. At that time there were streets being improved under the Penn avenue act of which I had charge; Frankstown avenue was one, and money was paid to me which went into the City Treasury; also received money from Cedar avenue and Taylor avenue, and it was paid into the Treasury; the same was done as to Wineb dde street and Collins avenue; all the engineering that was necessary in the improvement of streets was done; the amount to be charged for this work was estimated by the time of the hands employed; a proportion was also estimated for expenses incurred by the city; about fifty men are employed in all departments of my office: I ceased to employ men on the city pay roll in June; I took them off the city pay rolls and they were employed by me individually at wages from $60 to $125 per month; part of the work referred was done by men be onging to the city, it was on Neville street; I received $465; that money I used in payment of other men; I think this was July 17th.

THE "PENN AVENUE" IMPROVEMENTS.

All the Neville street work was done by the city corps; on other avenues I gave the grade lines; this work was not done by city employees; I, as city Engineer see that the work is up to grade; in one sense of the word these men are in the employ of the city; I employed them and they get their money from me; sometimes I have employed them on city work when needed; in work under the Penn avenue act the Engineer is refused to give grade lines; Howard street had change of Butler street and also Hiland avenue at the same time; all that money has not been paid, the work of Butler street is not done; received $800 on account of Butler street; drew it on account.

THE NEW ARRANGEMENT.

Before the first of June all was paid out of the city funds; think there was work done on Ellsworth avenue before that time; this account is open, to be settled hereafter; work was also done on Forbes street; think none but city men worked on Forbes street; $800 was received on that; it has not been paid into the City Treasury, it was used to pay the independent corps; can't state about Thirty-third street before June 1st; Pearl street is being done under Mr. Martin and on city pay roll by city officers; thought it a better arrangement; Main street is the same; on Elm street $75 was paid into the City Treasury; Ella street was in bad condition when they handed it over to me and I complained of it; the money over was placed in the Nation Trust Company by the secretary [laughter]; think Mr. Chislet asked me to take charge of Stanton avenue; don't recollect of telling any one that Stanton avenue must be done by the city;

THE PAY ROLLS—TIME.

I may have told some of the commissioners that I had a private corps employed to do that same work; don't recollect of it; told them I would see it done and charge proper price; don't think I told that it was necessary that I should do it as city officer; the time of the men is returned to me by the head engineer; I I depend upon the assistant in charge; I can't swear to their time; I have Mr Howat's list; at the end of each month I charge up to each commission; before I commenced the private corps, Mr. Marsin kept the time sheets—they are kept on paper or sometimes in pass-book; I suppose Mr. Martin has memorandum of amounts due previous to June; I don't remember of rendering any bill except to Hiland avenue commission; the money they paid was on account; some time ago I presented a bill to Stanton avenue and perhaps to Thirty-third street; some of the commissions, I got money from their officers; I would tell that so and so much was due and they would give me a warrant; can't say I gave any bill; I gave a receipt on account of engineering done; no bills were made showing the men to whom the money was to be paid; I charged the Commissioners at the rate of $6, some $5, some $3 per day per man; as much for one man per day and so much for another, without naming the names of the men; I was paid $4 per day for them the amount of their wages for the month I am quit of them.

RECEIPTS FOR THE PRIVATE CORPS.

To December 20th I have received the following amounts:

Butler street	$ 992 00
Ellsworth avenue	1,033 00
Forbes street	950 00
Hiland avenue	954 00
Hiland avenue, south	102 00
Liberty avenue	266 00
Lincoln avenue	220 00
Main street	75 00
Neville street	470 00
Pearl street	230 00
Shady lane	275 00
Stanton avenue	275 00
Thirty-third street	187 50
Walnut street	125 00
Total	$6,125 50

This memorandum was made about a week ago; have the papers to show the times.

THE LIBERTY AVENUE ENGINEERSHIP.

Was not elected Engineer of Liberty avenue; I declined to accept, but they passed a resolution that I should employ a man and supervise the work; don't know when it was afterwards that Mr. Howat was elected; knew there was a contest for it; Mr. Kirk was working for his friend; I declined it because men in that resolution did not make it because they wanted men entirely outside; I recommended Mr. Howatt; they didn't want any private corps to do it in that way, because they wanted a man to be at the one work all the time; Mr. Howatt is paid at the rate of $2,500 per year by the Commission; didn't say that the Commission refused to have my corps do it; they wanted it done right along by one man; presume Mr. Howatt does all the work; having grades, &c.; he has his corps and they are not on the independent corps; can't tell what Mr. Howatt is doing outside of Liberty avenue; he had some work to at the time he took the position; Mr. Howatt commenced about the middle of October, as engineer; before that, he did work this same as the others had been done; there is something due the city on Ellsworth avenue.

INCIDENTAL EXPENSES.

Received $50 from Mr. Stoy and also other money which is debited in this same account and used in the same way; the "expenses" in the list are carriage or buggy hire, transportation, &c.; the transit meantime was purchased by me; there are charges to the Commission for incidental expenses; there is no account of this between the city and the Commission—separately—it goes into the general account and they are not closed; the men employed are paid regularly; I paid for instruments, and some are in pay rolls others are not; I intend to defray some of this expense with money received from Commission; I helped make a plan for Edgar Thomson's steel works; it was at a time the city force was being reduced; some men were sent to do that after they were dropped from the city pay roll; don't know of any plans made outside city work.

To Mr. Lloyd—The $470 received from Neville street was used to pay the independent corps; the money will go into the city treasury.

To Mr. Semple—For Liberty avenue engineer Mr. Lawrence was being pushed by Mr. Kirk; at that time Mr. Lawrence was engineer of Stanton avenue.

PUBLIC GOOD INTENDED.

To Mr. Fulton—Have received no profit from this work.

To Mr. Jones—The cost of private engineering by Commissions has been shown to be nearly twice as much as by the independent engineering under my charge; I endeavor in this work as a matter of saving and because members of commission wanted it and some thought it my duty to do so; I have had no profit whatever in the matter; by keeping this independent corps together I would have an opportunity to get the best men for city work.

To Mr. Slagle—I don't think it would have worked as well had the men been in the city pay roll.

Mr. Slagle now offered in evidence the pay rolls, showing the expenses of this private corps; also the minutes of the Liberty avenue Commission, showing the election of Mr. Demtster as engineer on the 4th of September, 1873; also at a subsequent meeting, when it was resolved to visit the avenue with Engineer Dempster, October 9th, over as erasure the name of Mr. Howatt is entered as engineer.

Mr. Slagle here stated that, although they had no other witnesses they would close, believing that they had made out a case against the engineer.

Dr. A. H. Gross was sworn, and asked by Mr. Dempster to explain the minutes of the Liberty Avenue Commission. Dr. Gross then explained that Mr. Dempster was elected the Engineer—to be Supervising Engineer at a salary of $2,500—this money to go to such person as he (Dempster) should recommend to do the work. Mr. Dempster declined it, as $2,500 would not pay the men he would need to take, and he recommended Mr. Howatt.

Mr. Lyon and Mr. Smith, of the Butler street Commission, and Mr. John Fleming, of the Survey Committee, were next examined and their testimony was in corroboration of Mr. Dempster. Mr. Martin, one of the employees of the City Engineer's office also corroborated Mr. D. He had kept the time sheets for several of the Commissioners.

At the conclusion of the examination of witnesses, Mr. Slagle addressed the Committee and claimed that all the charges save the last, with reference to the laying out of a plan of lots for Dr. Evans, which was a trifling matter, had been substantiated.

Mr. Dempster then, in his own behalf, addressed the Committee, claiming entire exoneration. He said that all his acts had been for the public good and not for private gain.

The Committee then went into private session, and had a consultation on the matter. It was finally decided that Mr. Dempster was acquitted of the charges, but that the Committee would make two recommendations to Councils.

First—That the street improvements be ordered to make payments to employees, including engineers.

Second—That hereafter all street improvements be under the direct supervision of the City Engineer.

On motion, Messrs. Semple, McConway, Fulton and Evan Jones were appointed a committee to prepare the report in accordance with the above.

EDUCATIONAL.

Washington County Teachers' Institute—Closing Session.

CANONSBURG, PA., Dec. 24, 1873—1:30 P. M.

Institute met according to adjournment. Choir sang "Little Birdie," after which Miss Laura Rose read "The Burning of Chicago."

Dr. Northrop resumed his talk upon Language Lessons. Before proceeding to the subject proper, he said he would ask the teachers to come, at the next session, prepared to give him four sentences, the parts of speech of which he dictated. This he did to make a practical illustration of the preceding lesson.

Mr. Ehrenfeld was called to preside. He announced a reading exercise by a class of little girls from Miss Sadie McCalmont's school, at Burgettstown. After a short drill in spelling and articulation, they read the "Idle Girl," "The Carrion Crow," and "Old Arm Chair." These were all well rendered and well received.

After a song had been sung, Mrs. Diehl took up the subject of "Elementary Geography." He claimed that first lessons should be oral and pictorial, full of story telling. They should be full of minute detail. These stories should be told over and over again. Make the home geography as exhaustive as possible. Write out a sketch of the lesson for them. Be very careful to keep distinct the matter from the method. Tell them pleasant stories of journies taken by land and by water, occupying days and weeks. They will thus see that the world is very large indeed. If you have not a globe, make one—a pumpkin will make an admirable one, and, strange as it may seem, will please the children better than the most costly one. They like anything which is made for them especially. When speaking of sub-division of land and water don't generalize when talking to children. Be special and bring it home their comprehension. The ideas of direction and distance must be brought out by pleasant stories, and by actual measurment and tests. There are some who having eyes see not, and ears hear not. It is the duty of the teacher to unstop the ears and unseal the eyes. Never permit the pupils to guess. Have them either exactly measure or estimate closely. The speaker created a good deal of merriment by testing the teachers' ideas of length by estimation, many were very wide of the mask. Time having expired the question for discussion by the members was not taken up.

Miss C. Richardson, of Bentleysville, read "Little Daisy's Soliloquy," which was most admirably rendered. The little child's faith and trust in God and mother were very beautifully displayed.

Adjourned till 7 P. M.

WEDNESDAY EVENING.

The entertainment of Mrs. Randall Diehl was a success. Providence hall was crowded to almost its utmost. The lady's readings were quite well received. She read many selections by special request. "How Husband's did It," "The Creeds of the Bells," "Will the New Year Come To-night," and "The Alpine Bugle Horn," were especially beautiful. The music furnished by Professor Herzog's choir and Mr. Pullen was not the least entertaining feature of the evening.

THURSDAY MORNING.

The institute was convened at 9 P. M. Rev. McFarland, of Canonsburg, led the devotional exercises. Music by the choir, "Hail Spring Morn."

Dr. Northrop called attention to "School Incentives"—said we should use every motive which will influence the development of good. We should endeavor to give pupils impulses in the right direction. This is worth more than instruction. He said he would not have a teacher to announce that there would be no corporeal punishment in his school. He might commence with that secret determination. Reproof and ridicule should be very carefully used. Never array the conscience of a child against you, and so put yourself on his so. Do not punish in a passion. If you do, the child towers giant-like above you. Never inflict insult upon him. Let no blow reach the head. Ordinarily there should elapse between the offense and the punishment.

Reparation, confession and suspension of the pupil are all methods to be used discretly. A teacher may sometimes, by discretion save to society and the world, one who otherwise would have gone down to ruin. Never help a pupil to do anything you can possibly lead him to do himself. Train them to the exercise of thought. He who has learned to fix his mind intently upon any intellectual pursuit, to the exclusion of everything else, is already educated in the most important point of education. Luther complained of a want of this. Newton said if he had in any way excelled others, it was because he could fix his thoughts. Guard against falsehood; appeal to the conscience as God's vice regent of the soul. We must avoid sectarianism, but we can teach morality and the comprehensive principles of our common Christianity.

Music, "Safe Within the Vale." Selection from, by Canonsburg, read an essay on the subject of "Home Influence on School Government."

Directors' Convention reassembled at 11 A. M. Mr. Barnett read a paper on "How can Directors Best Discharge their Duties?"

Mrs. Diehl continued her instructions in geography.

The Institute is large and enthusiastic. Two hundred and forty names are enrolled.

THURSDAY—AFTERNOON SESSION.

Dr. Northrop talked upon teaching little children a knowledge of geometrical figures. He illustrated how to give them ideas of lines of all kinds. How to distinguish between imaginary lines and real lines. With a flexible yard stick or gonographer, he showed how he would form all the figures of planes in geometry. In solid geometry he advised teachers to have cubes, spheres, etc. His talk was practical and closely listened to by the teachers present.

Miss Jones read the Gladiator music. The question for discussion was, "How much general culture should be imparted in the Free Schools?" This question was opened by Rev. Wm. H. Ewing, of the Canonsburg Academy. He said he wished this duty had devolved upon some one else. The question is also a very wide meaning. The grand intention of our common schools is to educate the whole people in the common branches. If this is done in the thorough manner which is now indicated by your instructors, I think they will have done their work. I think the introduction of more branches would be to the detriment of the many to the advantage of the few. The common school system will have accomplished a great work when it has educated the masses. Washington. Subject: "Only Four." Roll call—two hundred and thirty-three names were called. Adjourned.

THE EVENING ENTERTAINMENT

was opened by music on an orchestral band improvised for the occasion. At 7.30 Prof. Fee called the meeting to order.

Miss Hornish's "Something Funny" kept up a broad smile, while T. B. McKean's "Pedagogue" provoked an occasional broader one. Mr. R. C. Wolfe's "Train the Children" appealed eloquently to the hearts of all. The readings of Miss Richardson and Wilson were each admirable in their way. The music was inspiring and very well rendered. Prof. Hertzog has reason to be proud of his choir.

What shall we say of Dr. Hay's lecture? With what a whirlwind of words did he demolish both the theory of Development and that of the "Variation." Mr. Hay says the species must have varied downward and become weak and extinct. By the development theory, the stronger would push the weaker to the wall. Such not being the case, we still having ,jelly-fish, tadpole pollywog frog, ape and man," we have had them from their creation, and will have them till they become extinct at the fiat of the Creator. Mr. Hay's argument was not granted, and at noon yesterday the strike commenced. Superintendent McCullough received a notification during the forenoon that a strike would take place but no time was stated. The officials watched the course of events with great anxiety, and made every effort to supply vacancies. Trains went out as usual in the morning, but no returns were received. The strike took place at noon, and covers the whole line to Chicago. The New Castle Accomodation, Cleveland Express and Chicago Express, were coupled together this afternoon and were sent out with a shifting engine. It is also understood that Benj. Hays who recently prosecuted a number of members of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers last evening, took out the Chicago Express, with orders not to stop at Alliance.

AN ENGINEER'S STATEMENT.

We have been furnished with a statement, in substance as below, by an engineer. He says that the movement is entirely independent of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers, and is only made by those upon whom the reduction is put. He further states that in 1872 a written agreement was entered into between the Pennsylvania Company and engineers, in which the rate of salary was distinctly stipulated. That the company always held as binding in case of demands for extra compensation on account of delayed trains. The company, he says broke the agreement by reducing the wages as referred to, and fourteen hundred of two thousand engineers signed a remonstrance against it and petitioned for the original rate of compensation.

The trouble is likely to be damaging to business interests as no freight can be transported, and a speedy settlement of the difficulty will be looked for with interest.

Masonic Officers Installed.

At Perfection Hall, Library building, impressive Masonic ceremonies were held last evening, being the installation of officers of several A. Y. M. lodges of this vicinity. The officers were conducted by Grand Lodge officers G. H. P. Geter, C. Shidle, G. K. James Bown, and G. S. Thomas Davage. The officers installed were:

Allegheny Chapter, 217, M. E. H. P., Richard Armstrong; M. E. King, Wm. Stewart; M. E. Scribe, William Paul, Jr.; Treasurer, Robert Anderson; Secretary, A. H. Backing.

Zerrubabel Chapter, No. 162, M. E. H., George Bailey; M. E. King, Chas. E. Baer; M. E. Scribe, John A. Wilson; Treasurer, James Shidle; Secretary, John Richardson, Jr.

Duquesne Chapter, No. 193, M. E. H., James Murdock; M. E. King, A. G. Lucas; M. E. Scribe, R. C. McConnell; Treasurer, John Evans; Secretary, Stephen A. Northam.

After the installation a grand banquet was given.

Presentations.

The young men of the United Presbyterian congregation, Indiana, Pa., presented their pastor, Rev. W. S. Owens, with a very fine gold watch and chain, a few evenings ago. The ladies of the congregation presented Mrs. Owens with a beautiful French china set and a silver tea service. Mr. Owens is a Pittsburgher and is very popular with his congregation, as the liberal donations mentioned abundantly testify.

It is stated that the friends of Robert J. Grier, late cashier of the Nation Trust Company, offer to indnce his return to Pittsburgh, if the criminal prosecution now pending be drawn, and a guarantee given that no others will be commenced against him. It is also asserted that Grier can tell where some three hundred thousand dollars of the missing funds of the Trust Company have gone, and will promise to secure the restoration of that amount to the assets of the institution if permitted to return.

POLITICAL.

State.

Hon. William A. Wallace, having resigned the Vice Presidency of the Texas and Pacific Railroad Company, will take his seat in the Senate at the opening of the session. This will be the twelfth consecutive session for Senator Wallace.

Our Democratic friends are busy furnishing their rusty weapons, and oiling up their abandoned machinery, under the fond persuasion that they have a chance of success at the February election. Candidates for the mayoralty are being let out from their seclusion, groomed and exercised in the hope of getting their stiffened joints in running order for one more race. The venerable steeds creak and clatter as they are put upon the course, and there is much doubt in their tasteful efforts to frisk and play taken their ancient sight-full of them. Every day we hear of one and another of these familiar old war horses of past times ranging himself up with his veteran brethren, for one more desperate rush at the rack and manger where they once stood and fed their ill, but to which they have so long been strangers. The inclement season of the year is bad for them, and their trainers look out for them their blankees. A little cold contracted by any sudden exposure will ruin what little wind they may have left, beyond cure.—*Philadelphia Bulletin.*

General.

The Democratic State Committee of Maine will hold a meeting on January 8, to discuss the condition and prospects of their party.

Senator Morton's health will not permit him to run for the presidency, he says, and he adds that the two men who are to make the contest in 1876 are yet in the stable.

Some of the Democrats are beginning to smell a mice about Senator Booth, of California. It is getting through their old coco-nut that, while Booth may be a fierce anti-monopolist, and all that, he hates the Democratic party, its principles, antecedents and present leaders with a fierce hatred. It is a comfort the Democrats will ever get out of Newton Booth can be put in their eyes.

The New Jersey Constitutional Commission met at the Capitol, Trenton, on Wednesday, for remission and final adoption of the recent Constitution, preparatory to its presentation to the Legislature at the opening of its session. Under their rules no new amendments or suggestions can now be made, the whole seven articles being taken up and acted upon section by section.

Governor Booth, the newly-elected Senator from California, is an "anti-railroad man," and was elected by the Anti-railroad party as Governor of the State two years ago. He was educated as a lawyer, but became a merchant, and accumulated a large fortune in mercantile pursuits. He is described as a fearless and eloquent speaker, with a well-cultivated mind. Within the last three years he has led to victory in several campaigns the Independent party against both of the "regular" parties, and has made himself extremely popular. Governor Booth is an anti-railroad man, only in the sense that he is opposed to monopolies, from which California, and particularly San Francisco, has greatly suffered. His unswerving opposition to such corporations is the mainspring of his popularity in his native State.

The Washington correspondent of the Cincinnati *Commercial*, gossiping over the list of Senators whose term expire in 1875, says: "Honest John Scott goes out. I sincerely hope he will be elected. John Scott is an honest man. His record is as clear as the noon-day sun. John Scott is poor, having hardly anything but his salary to live upon, but his record on the back-pay iniquity, and every other, is clear and enviable. He did not finger any of the steal. He left it in the Treasury, where it belonged. He is a conscientious man, and the Pennsylvania Legislature should send him back."

Goodness gracious! What are we coming to under a Democratic Governor? Just think of it; Bill Allen's hired white girl has up and run away with Bill Allen's nigger coachman. They put out on Saturday morning last from Chillicothe for Zanesville. What a condition of things, socially, has been inaugurated by the election of a Democratic Governor, even before the Governor himself is inaugurated!

That's just what Bill Allen said in one of his anti-war speeches of the rebellion. He declared that the Republicans wished to overrun the South with negroes and to bring about social equality. And here we have the direct results of Bill Allen's teachings, right under his own roof.—*Cleveland Herald.*

To those unlearned in the mysteries of female apparel, the names nowadays given to different shades of color are puzzling and meaningless enough. What idea, for instance, does Ashes-of-Roses, as applied to color, convey to the ordinary mind? Is Moonlight-on-the-Water any less puzzling, and do we really get any conception of a fabric's hue from the more descriptive London-Smoke? But fantastic as these names are, those which were current in Paris three-quarters of a century ago were stranger and more unsuggestive. What would one conceive such col-rs to be as Toad-in-Love, Sacred-Mouse, Wonderful-Lamp, Last-Sigh-of-Jocko, Suppressed-Sighs, and Mud-of-Paris? Yet all these appellations, and many more equally *bizarre*, together with some that are so unrefined as to be positively offensive to modern tastes, were in common use in the French capital at the beginning of the nineteenth century.

An effort is soon to be made to induce the Legislature of Wisconsin to tax railroad property in the same manner that private property is taxed.

Pocket Books.

20 per cent. discount, at Gildenfenney & Hess', No. 45 Fifth avenue.

One Thousand and One

articles, appropriate for Holiday presents, can be obtained at Gildenfenney & Hess', No. 45 Fifth avenue, at 20 per cent. discount.

A RAILROAD STRIKE.

Engineers on the Western Roads Quit their Engines—Delay in Travel and Stoppage of Business.

[Harrisburg Correspondent Philadelphia Press.]

The law creating the Bureau of Statistics, passed in 1872, has not been fairly tested, as it required the organization of a bureau and the collection of statistics relating to every source our material wealth—mineral, agricultural, mechanical, financial, and population—without clothing the officials charged with so vast a duty with the necessary power to command what they desired to learn. The Commissioner of Statistics, Hon. Thomas J. Bigham, since he took possession of the bureau, has not been able to do much more than organize the system for collecting statistics and preparing such suggestions for amendments to the law under which he acts as will place his bureau in a position to be of great importance hereafter, not only a depository of interesting information, but as an auxiliary to the splendid educational system of the State, affording facilities for the safe transaction of business, and furnishing instruction for the guidance of officials in the performance of their duty. Notwithstanding the entire deficiency of the bureau in means to reach sources of information, Mr. Bigham's report will be the most interesting compilation of facts and figures relating to the resources of Pennsylvania ever published in this State in an official form. In the absence of data to secure replies to interrogatories which he sent and made personally to sources of information, Mr. Bigham has been compelled to rely on what he could collate from the reports of the last census of the United States Treasury Department, of the State Auditor General, and on what the courtesy of managers of corporations within the control of the commonwealth would supply. It is a notable fact, however, that the records of corporations and associations are closed books to the public. No information is allowed to pass from these records that will exhibit their actual condition, earnings, and expenditures, because such revelations are regarded as injurious to the personal interests of the men how manage those concerns, and therefore stockholders who have their money invested in this manner know little, if anything, of the risks to which it is subjected, and the small share of the profits which it produces allotted to them in dividends.

The forthcoming report of the Bureau of Statistics the exhibit relating to coal, iron, and steel, will be very full and complete, for the reason that the production of coal is now almost entirely in the hands of a few corporation in each of the great fields of exertion, and therefore, little competition is had in its transfer to the consumer. Coal and lumber within the past six years have passed almost entirely beyond the competition of individuals. The Schuylkill coal region is now the estate of a single corporation, which is so powerful as to control the anthracite coal trade, having succeeded in crushing out individuals and acquired special privileges which will enable it to control this trade and its prices, without regard to production or consumption, for an indifinite period.

One of the most interesting portions of the report of the Bureau of Statistics will be the paper devoted to the wealth and annual productions of the State.

First, It is shown that the assessed valuation of the real and personal property of the State is $1,171,968,977, while the true, actual value is put down at $3,475,831,851. The difference in making assessments is marked and most unreasonable. As a proof, one county, the third in the State in population, is the twenty-second in assessed wealth, while several other counties are very nearly up to the cost value of their property in the assessment.

Second. The National and State banks are thus enumerated:

National banks in this State, 155, with a capital of..... $89,470,661 85
Philadelphia banks, 29, with a capital of..... 33,182,770 22
Pittsburgh banks, 16, with a capital of..... 10,295,300 00
Total..... $132,948,732 12
State banks, as reported
Jan. 1873..... $32,918,177 25
Increase in 1873..... 11,037,558 73
$43,955,736 98
Savings funds..... $18,540,666 43
Not returned..... 18,540,666 48
Building and Loan Associations..... 25,000,000 00
Private banks (estimated)..... 25,000,000 00
$189,081,332 96
Total..... $433,350,801 66
Third. The railroads of the State are thus given: Roads constructed by the Pennsylvania Railroad..... $140,837,262 00
Roads constructed by the Reading Railroad..... 66,995,110 56
Independent railroads..... 64,136,168 00
Passenger railroads..... 3,131,000 00
Freight companies..... 5,659,167 38
Canal companies..... 25,187,792 62
Coal lands by mining companies..... 85,000,000 00
$392,918,734 60
Fourth. Corporations paying tax on stock not incuded in the above:
Foreign insurance companies..... $11,750,000 00
Domestic insurance companies..... 2,200,000 00
Manufacturing corporations..... 3,500,000 00
Oil companies..... 5,000,000 00
Gas and water companies..... 700,000 00
Express companies..... 1,450,000 00
$26,300,000 00
Wholesale merchants..... $90,000,000 00
Retail merchants..... 100,000,000 00
Hotels, wholesale and retail liquor dealers..... 100,000,000 00
$290,000,000 00
$126,000,000 00

From the taxes paid into the State Treasury by corporations, the probable amount of capital represented by them has been deduced. For wholesale and retail merchants, hotel keepers, and liquor dealers, the sums named are estimates.

Fifth. Agricultural.....	$ 80,668,196 00
Farm productions.....	153,946,467 00
Value of reclaimed land, not in value, est mated.....	125,000,000 00
Farm implements and machinery.....	28,181,744 00
Value of Orchards.....	4,248,094 00
Market garden.....	2,267,340 00
Domestic manufactures.....	5,000,000 00
Animals for slaughter.....	28,482,926 00
Live stock.....	115,649,075 00
Manufactures of all kinds.....	$522,078,349 00
	997,050,241 61
Total.....	$1,519,128,590 61
Anthracite.....	$ 85,187,583
Bituminous.....	34,917,273
Oil.....	19,816,000
Total.....	$139,716,855

It is not possible to estimate the mineral wealth of Pennsylvania. While the anthracite coal beds are of limited extent, they are of immense capacity, and the bituminous deposits underlie half of the area of Western Pennsylvania. The splint in cannel coal abounds along the Beaver and Shenango valleys. Iron ores abound in half of the counties of the State. The production of iron manufactures in 1870 was $127,000,000, and forty per cent. of increase since would bring the product of 1873 up to the stupendous aggregate of $178,000,000. The product of steel, copper, zinc and nickel, new industries in this State, falls below $40,000,000. Kaolin, fire-clay, fire-brick, and many others of like class, afford the Bureau of Statistics no data on which to make a statement, and therefore the Commissioner estimates these products at $20,000,000.

In order to present these elaborate returns as plainly within the comprehension of the general reader, the report from which we have been permitted to make these copious extracts thus recapitulates:

No. 1.....	$3,475,831,851 00
No. 2.....	433,350,801 66
No. 3.....	393 913,738 60
No. 4.....	1,519,128,590 61
No. 5.....	522,078,344 00
No. 6.....	129,710,858 00
	$6,473,914,461 86

Such is the wealth and annual productions of Pennsylvania, as disclosed and presented in the first forthcoming annual report from the Bureau of Statistics, made by Mr. Thomas J. Bigham, Commissioner. The document is an able one, and extremely popular when printed, because it covers ground for which there was no provision heretofore to enter upon; and from which California, and particularly San Francisco, has greatly suffered. His unswerving opposition to such corporations is the mainspring of his popularity in his native State.

WEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA.

Report of Commissioner of Statistics Bigham—True Value of Real and Personal Estate—Condition of National and State Banks—Capital Represented by Corporations.

[Harrisburg Correspondent Philadelphia Press.]

The law creating the Bureau of Statistics, passed in 1872, has not been fairly tested, as it required the organization of a bureau and the collection of statistics relating to every source our material wealth—mineral, agricultural, mechanical, financial, and population—without clothing the officials charged with so vast a duty with the necessary power to command what they desired to learn. The Commissioner of Statistics, Hon. Thomas J. Bigham, since he took possession of the bureau, has not been able to do much more than organ